

NEWS

in brief

Father, brother of US murder suspect held

The father and older brother of an American murder suspect, held here pending extradition, were arrested yesterday on suspicion of obstructing justice.

Suspect Samuel Sheinbein, 17, was remanded last night for a further 10 days in the murder and dismembering of Alfredo Tello, 19, in Maryland two weeks ago. Sheinbein's father, Shlomo, 44, an Israeli citizen, was charged by Petah Tikva Magistrate's Court yesterday with tampering with a police investigation by helping his son flee to Israel in order to avoid trial in the United States. His brother, Robert, 24, is scheduled to be charged this morning.

Woman convicted of murdering husband

The Haifa Magistrate's Court yesterday sentenced Bader Naharani to 13 years in jail for helping her nephew, Asraf Barakat, in the stabbing death of husband, Hani, in Ebtan village in February last year.

The court sentenced Barakat to 17 years in jail for manslaughter. The court was told that Naharani abused his wife, and there was also a financial dispute between the couple.

Child rapist remanded

Netanya Magistrate Judge Aharon Rachevsky yesterday extended by 10 days the remand of a Herzliya man suspected of raping five 3 and 4-year-old girls. Boris Zaider, 42, allegedly committed the rapes on staircases, and has confessed to one of them.

Zaider has been jailed previously for sexually harassing minors. Danny Mordechai, a police investigator, said the girls weren't even old enough to describe what happened, and that initially their families thought they were injured in the playground.

Zaider asked the court to provide treatment. He asked for "an injection against such urges, instead of a jail sentence."

Netanyahu ready to hear Syria's demands

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said yesterday that he is ready to listen to Syria's demands in peace negotiations. "Our position is known."

It has been passed to Syria. It doesn't mean they can't raise their position. They can raise all their demands. On this issue, we are always open and ready to listen," Netanyahu told Israel Television's Arabic service.

Pop Art pioneer Roy Lichtenstein dead at 73

Roy Lichtenstein, a pioneer of the Pop Art movement best known for his oversized comic book-like images, died yesterday. He was 73.

Lichtenstein died at New York University Medical Center, said Morgan Spangle, director of the Leo Castelli Gallery, which has represented Lichtenstein since 1962.

Levy: Bloody price of peace too high

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - Israel is willing to take risks for peace, Foreign Minister David Levy told the UN yesterday, but said "nobody is willing to continue to pay the bloody price that is being demanded in the name of peace."

"Peace cannot live side by side with the continuation of incitement, hostility, violence, and terror," he told the 52nd General Assembly of the UN. "Peace means, in essence, the unequivocal and irreversible abandonment of violence."

In his speech, a few hours

before he met with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas, Levy also said Israel welcomes American efforts to revive the peace process.

Earlier, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa told the UN that Israel is to blame for the breakdown in the peace process. He said Israel's settlement policy in occupied Arab territory made a mockery of the Oslo Accords and pushed things to confrontation.

Speaking in Hebrew, Levy rejected the suggestion that Israel bears responsibility for

any breakdown in the peace process. "We seek neither to dictate nor to coerce," he said. "We seek merely the implementation of signed agreements."

Levy blamed the Palestinians, saying they had undermined trust by failing to carry out their commitments. It is unacceptable, Levy said, for there to be two parallel tracks - one for negotiations with Israel, and a second track of violence and terror.

"If trust can be restored, if the principle of reciprocity is honored, it will be possible for us to proceed," he said. "We have already proven our willingness

to do so in our decisions and actions since taking office, including the signing and implementation of the Hebron agreement," Levy also assailed Hamas - without naming it - saying that terrorist leaders and their organizations have adopted the facade of innocent charitable organizations and used that cover to help prepare and perpetrate terror.

Standing at the podium of an assembly that condemned Israel twice last spring for building at Har Homa, Levy said there has been an increase in the campaign against Israel at the UN. Attempts to "internationalize"

Israeli-Palestinian disputes creates unnecessary obstacles and helps make entrenched positions more rigid, Levy said.

He called on the UN to facilitate an atmosphere that is conducive to direct negotiations between the parties and to reduce the number of resolutions on the Middle East it adopts each year.

And, he added, there is another task for the international community: it "bears responsibility for ensuring that terrorism enjoys no political support, recognition, or legitimacy - not even implicitly."



Lehaim! Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak raises a glass yesterday with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to toast the New Year with the members of the General Staff at IDF headquarters in Tel Aviv. (IDF Spokesman)

Poll: 89% of US Jews support peace process

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - American Jewish support for the Middle East peace process, and for a strong American diplomatic role in it, are very strong, according to a poll by the Israel Policy Forum.

Eighty-nine percent of American Jews support the peace process, and 83% view peace as inseparable from Israeli security, said the poll, which was released yesterday.

The vast majority of American Jews also support US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's call for a "time out" on settlement expansion and for a crackdown on Palestinian terrorist activity.

More than 80% believe the US should use "diplomatic prodding" and "pressure" on both Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to get the peace process moving.

The telephone survey of 1,198 American Jewish adults was conducted on behalf of IDP, an organization formed in 1993 to support the Oslo Accords.

The poll was conducted from September 16 through September 21, immediately after Albright's Mideast trip.

Some 57% had a favorable view of Netanyahu, while 81% had an unfavorable view of Arafat, the poll showed.

However, 84% said the US should apply pressure on both Netanyahu and Arafat "to act constructively in negotiations," and 89% believe the US "must be even-handed when facilitating negotiations."

Those polled expressed confidence in President Bill Clinton: 91% said Clinton supports Israel, and 81% agree that Clinton "would not do anything to harm Israel's security."

Call for pullout from Lebanon sparks debate within Labor

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MK Yossi Beilin said yesterday that a troop withdrawal from Lebanon would reduce casualties and that Israel would be able to protect the country from inside its borders.

"There is no need to protect Israel from abroad," Beilin said at a debate with Oren Shohar at a Labor youth gathering.

Beilin noted that in the past month alone Israel has suffered dozens of casualties in Lebanon. In all, he maintained Israel has lost 1,200 soldiers in Lebanon since 1982, including 650 who fell during the war.

"The security zone is not giving us any security. It's a psychological barrier, a line we're afraid to change fearing things could be worse. Every government is afraid that if it withdraws from Lebanon and something happens, it will be blamed for retreating," Beilin said.

"The main reason we remain there," continued Beilin, "is a lack of public pressure on the government."

He asserted that "the government figures, if the public accepts the present situation without protest, if there aren't any demonstrations or pressure, then we stay. I say the present situation is more dangerous and costly than change."

Beilin said Hizbullah has not attempted to penetrate the Israeli border since the security zone was set up in June 1985.

He alleged that a withdrawal would not be "an ideal alternative, but neither is an agreement with [Syrian President Hafez] Assad, which will cost us the Golan. Perhaps we would just prefer to reach an agreement with the Vishnizte rebbe."

"You would prefer that," someone in the audience shouted, and Beilin replied: "Yes, I would."

Shahor, a former government policy coordinator for the West Bank who

recently joined the Labor Party, said that leaving Lebanon without an agreement with Syria could jeopardize border settlements, and cost even more casualties.

"Hizbullah would send terrorist cells to wander around the north, and reach even Tiberias. They would not refrain from attacking civilians, as well as soldiers," he said. "I'm all for leaving Lebanon. But the vacuum we'd leave would be filled by Hizbullah and Syrian elements and we'd find ourselves once again on the border," Shahor said.

He warned that people would be afraid to travel in the north at night, and tourism

would be nonexistent.

"If we could reach an understanding with the Syrians about some guarantee that the Lebanese Army or a multinational force would take our place, then maybe... but unless we do, the Syrians have an interest in continuing the flare up [in the North]," he said.

"If the Syrians are not interested in an agreement with us, then we're playing ping-pong with ourselves," Shahor added.

"A unilateral withdrawal is too large a risk, a gamble which we cannot pull off. We will not save any blood, except by opening negotiations [with the Syrians]."

Hussein: Jordan won't become base for terror

AMMAN (Reuters) - King Hussein said yesterday he would not allow Jordan to become a base for terrorists.

"We are against terrorism, and we will not allow this country to be a theater or base for terrorist acts in whatever shape or form they come in," Hussein told local newspaper editors.

The remarks followed attacks in Amman that wounded two Israeli embassy guards last week and injured Hamas leader,

Khaled Meshal. Jordan said Saturday that Meshal was involved in a street fight with two Canadian tourists who were taken into custody.

"We have taken all necessary measures to find out exactly what happened and we are taking it very seriously," the king said.

"Our concern for the life of every Jordanian, and anyone on Jordanian soil, is equal." He said Jordan had done "whatever was humanly possi-

ble" to treat Meshal, who is recovering in an Amman hospital.

Jordanian Prime Minister Abdul-Salam al-Majali said during a visit to Oman on Sunday that Hussein had summoned doctors from abroad to help Meshal.

He said Jordan would not accept any foreign intervention in its internal affairs, "especially when it comes to security which is sacred... We do not allow any

party to meddle with the security of the country."

The Izzadin Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, has vowed to avenge the attack on Meshal and strike at Israeli targets in the country and abroad.

Another Hamas leader in Jordan, Musa Abu Marzook, alleged that Israel "opened a battle outside the natural battleground for Jihad in Palestine. This is extremely dangerous matter right now."

Jordanian military court convicts Israeli, 5 others of smuggling arms to PA

AMMAN (AP) - A Jordanian military court has sentenced six people, including an Israeli Arab, to jail terms of five to 10 years for trying to smuggle weapons to territories under Palestinian control.

The Israeli Arab, Nidal Taleb, 32, remains at large and was sentenced in absentia, according to court documents released here yesterday.

In handing down the sentences Sunday, the head of the three-man tribunal, Col. Yousef Faouri, said the accused deserved to be jailed for an extra five years.

The judge said he was taking into account their lack of previous convictions and the fact that one defendant was "a woman and a widow," Zeinat Mustafa, 45, received a five-year sentence as an accomplice, because the court

found she had stored the automatic rifles and handguns in her home in Amman.

The court sentenced Ahmed Shihadeh, 28, a Saudi citizen, and Jordanian nationals Taleb Mohammed, 58, Mahmoud Hussein, 40, and Nawaf Hussein, 42, to 10 years in jail. Taleb also was sentenced to a 10-year jail term.

The smuggling ring was uncovered when police detained some of the suspects as they approached the Jordanian bank of the Dead Sea, where they planned to board a boat and cross to Israel, the court records said.

The accused had earlier met an unidentified Israeli at a Jordanian tourist site, where they arranged the deal, the court was told.

France's Total leads \$2 billion Iran gas deal

PARIS - Total SA said it and Russian and Malaysian companies have signed a \$2 billion contract to develop Iranian offshore gas reserves, challenging a US law that seeks to stamp out investment there.

Total, France's second-largest oil company, joined forces with Russia's RAO Gazprom and Malaysia's Petrolina Nasional Bhd to develop the South Pars field in the Persian Gulf, one of the world's biggest untapped natural gas reserves in a country with 15 percent of the world's total.

The investment could aggravate tensions between the US and the 15-nation European Union, which is challenging US laws that punish

companies doing business in Iran, Libya, and Cuba.

"We are opposed to the US legislation and this extraterritorial aspect," said Peter Guilford, trade spokesman for the European Commission. "We think, like the Americans, that Iran has offered unacceptable support to terrorism. But we disagree about the means of improving Iran."

Ben Duffy, a spokesman at the US mission to the EU, called Total's decision to invest in Iran "unfortunate. There is broad concern in the US about Iran's support for terrorism and the development of weapons of mass destruction," he said.

SNAKES

Continued from Page 1

But the matter will become more clear in the next few months, when he completes his study of the third and last of the fossils using modern scanning methods. These methods will give a full description of the inside and outside of the fossil. Tchernov hopes that it will be possible to return to the site near

Ramallah in the near future, together with American scientists, to seek new paleontological finds.

The snakes of Ein Yabrud - the most complete and best preserved collection of snake fossils in the world - are part of the National and University Fossil Collection at HU's science faculty.

It is expected to serve as the base for a new museum of natural history initiated by Hebrew University Prof. Jeff Camhi.

IDF

Continued from Page 1

The report said that at least 48 Hizbullah gunmen had been killed in fighting so far this year, including some in air raids.

The fighting yesterday began earlier in the morning with a Hizbullah attack on IDF outposts in the Rehan and Soujud areas in the eastern sector of the security zone.

A few hours later, a roadside bomb was detonated alongside an SLA patrol near Shiheen village, in the western sector of the zone. Hizbullah gunmen also opened fire with mortars at a nearby SLA outpost. There were no casualties.

The Sagger attack near Talouza prompted further heavy exchanges in the zone, with IDF gunners shelling suspected Hizbullah targets in the Wadi Saluki region and the outskirts of Majdal Salim, north of the zone.

There were no reports of Hizbullah casualties as a result of the IDF-SLA shelling. Later in the afternoon, the organization fired a number of mortars at the SLA's Rashaf outpost, in the western sector of the zone, without causing any casualties or damage.

The fighting coincided with a meeting of the Grapes of Wrath monitoring group at UNIFIL's headquarters in Nakoura. The group convened to hear a complaint from Israel over an incident earlier this week in which a Lebanese woman was wounded as a result of a Hizbullah-fired Sagger missile, which hit Beit Yaboun village in the western sector.

Israel charged that the Hizbullah attack was a flagrant

breach of the Grapes of Wrath understandings. The five-nation monitoring committee accepted Israel's complaint and reiterated its call to all sides to prevent endangering or harming civilians.

Meanwhile, Lebanese newspapers have reported that the IDF has resumed using robots to locate mines and bombs along routes used by IDF and SLA troops.

The newspaper reports quoted Hizbullah officials as saying that the use of robots slowed the movement of IDF patrols, making them easier targets for missile attacks.

In New York, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bouez called for a complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and said it was the UN's duty to ensure it is carried out.

In a speech to the General

Assembly, Bouez also accused the Netanyahu government of renegeing on previous agreements on land for peace, the future of Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and settlement construction.

"Instead of making progress towards peace, the one and only objective became making whatever was done, no matter how modest," Bouez said.

Bouez said the UN, which maintains a 4,500-member peacekeeping force in South Lebanon, must ensure Israel withdraws from the area as called for by the 1991 Madrid peace accords.

"It is not only the right of the international community to move into action through the United Nations. It is duty-bound to do so," Bouez said, adding that Lebanon's hopes for peace stemming from the Madrid talks were dashed by the Netanyahu government.

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The Authority for Research and Public Relations
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announce the awarding of the annual
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New panel to be formed to probe PA corruption

STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Several months after a withering report on corruption within the Palestinian Authority, legislators announced a new panel to investigate official improprieties as they renewed calls for the resignation of Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The committee will be headed by Ahmed Qurei (Abu Ala), head of the Palestinian Legislative Council. He said that the committee will include former justice minister Fasih Abu Medein, Attorney-General Fayez Abu Rahme, and several appointments to be made by Arafat.

PA sources said Arafat is encouraging the investigation as part of his drive to demonstrate to Palestinians that he wants to root out official corruption.

The announcement of the new committee was not welcomed by everybody. "We don't need another committee to investigate corruption," PLC member Hatem Abdull Khader, a Jerusalem representative who spearheaded the report on corruption, said. "We are finished with our committee. We issued a report and I am not enter-

ing another panel."

Abdul Khader said he spent two months working on the 60-page report, which was never released. He said he did not know whether Arafat has implemented its recommendations.

One recommendation not implemented by Arafat was the PLC's call for the dismissal of Arafat's cabinet. Abdul Khader said the need for such a step remains urgent. "We must follow this up," he said. "We want a new government."

The PLC is expected to hold a session today regarding the independence of the Palestinian judiciary, as well as PA corruption. The topic will also be discussed next week.

Palestinians appear to agree with the call for the dismissal of the cabinet. The latest poll conducted by the Nablus-based Center for Palestine Research and Studies [CPRS] reports that 82.7 percent of those questioned support a cabinet reshuffle.

The poll also says 64.9% believe that the PA is corrupt and 38.2% expect the improprieties to increase.

Regarding the Palestinian media, the poll says that only

20.6% believe that the Palestinian newspapers are free from official influence. Nearly a quarter of those polled say the press is not free and 49.7% say it is free "to some extent."

Nabil Amr, a PLC member and aide to Arafat, did not dispute the figures. "Press freedom is connected to the level of the newspapers," he told Voice of Palestine Radio yesterday. "The level of the newspapers is weak. We want to distinguish between freedom of the press and complete openness. This doesn't exist in the Third World."

Amr dismissed the suggestion that Palestinian journalists are scared to practice their craft, pointing out that they are employees of the PA.

"I don't mean they are scared of the censor, but the fear is from other directions," said Fathi Barkawi, the host of the radio's "A New Day," said in an apparent reference to Arafat's security forces.

Amr did not give a direct reply. In the CPRS poll, 57.6% said Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip cannot criticize the PA without fear of retaliation.



Ras al-Amud office

Faisal Hussein, the Palestinian Authority official responsible for Jerusalem, receives guests yesterday outside his protest 'office tent' in Ras al-Amud. Moleket Party leader MK Rehavam Ze'evi called on the government to remove the tent, saying it threatens Israeli sovereignty on the Mount of Olives.

(Isaac Harari)

PA high court orders explanation for arrest of Hamas activist

By STEVE RODAN

The Palestinian High Court in Ramallah yesterday ordered the Palestinian Authority to explain the arrest of a suspected Hamas activist by PA security forces earlier this month.

The court gave Attorney-General Fayez Abu Rahme 15 days to explain why Mahmoud Muslih was arrested around September 4. Muslih, 56, from the Ramallah-area village of Ein Silwe, asserted that his detention was illegal and he was not charged with any crime.

Muslih was a member of the Islamic Charitable Society, and was arrested by Palestinian military intelligence. Bassam Eid, director of the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, said the arrest stemmed from a presidential order from PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"In such a case, every prosecutor will refer you to another prosecutor," said Eid, whose group has released a report on the PA justice system. "A civilian prosecutor will send you to a military prosecutor, because who is going to

deal with a presidential order?"

PA security forces have arrested about 80 Hamas activists in the West Bank and Gaza Strip following recent suicide bombing attacks in Jerusalem. They have also closed 16 Hamas institutions, including social service organizations and sports clubs.

Eid said hundreds of Palestinians languish in PA jails for up to 30 months without being tried or charged. Jordanian law, which still applies in the West Bank, requires that charges be filed or the detainee be released after 48 hours.

Also in Ramallah, Palestinian attorney Jawad Boulos said that 800 Palestinians in Israeli administrative detention will end their 14-month-old boycott of IDF appeals courts. Administrative detentions are usually for periods of six months and are often renewed.

"There is a promise from the Israeli prosecutor that the courts will be impartial," Boulos told a news conference, "and will not allow the intelligence apparatus to intervene in the cases." Boulos said 420 Palestinians have been

placed in administrative detentions since the suicide bombings in Jerusalem last month.

In a related development, PA authorities refused to allow the Israeli organization B'Tselem to investigate Saturday's explosion in the Ramallah-area village of Silwad, in which one child was killed and four injured. The children were between ages three and 10 and were apparently injured by an exploding mine.

Mazen Dandis, a field researcher for B'Tselem, said he tried to enter Ramallah Government Hospital on Sunday, but authorities prevented him from questioning the injured children. He said he was told to obtain a permit from the PA Health Ministry, which referred him to the Ramallah Military Governor's Office.

"They made me wait 26 hours and in the end they said wait," Dandis said. Dandis tried to speak to the mother of one of the injured children, but she said she could not respond without permission from PA authorities.

PA health officials could not be reached for comment.

Peres berates Barak apology to Sephardim

By SARAH HONIG

Former Labor leader Shimon Peres yesterday dissociated himself forcefully from the apology his successor Ehud Barak made to Sephardim for "pain they suffered in the first years of the state."

"I see no need to apologize. I have no doubt that the aims in those days were pure and honorable. I cannot imagine that [David] Ben-Gurion would have sensed any guilt about his grandiose project of the ingathering of the exiles," Peres said.

"The aim was to receive all Jews coming here as brethren and not to look condescendingly on any of them," he told reporters.

Peres added that "any emigration is a painful process and it is painful and difficult no matter what country one comes from. Emigration is as wrenching an experience as getting a heart transplant. It hurts ...

"Sure, when the first immigrants from North Africa arrived in Ashdod and saw before them a never-ending sea of sand, they cried. It was utter desolation. There was nothing there," he continued.

"Who would have thought that 40 years later there would be a beautiful, large, prosperous thriving city there. Today's children in Ashdod are hardly deprived," Peres said.

Peres argued that "rather than focusing on deprivation and making deprivation one's identity, the focus should be on accomplishment."

"Those who built a city in Ashdod accomplished a great feat and they should be proud of it. We should stress the achievement as a source of pride and not magnify and perpetuate a sense of discrimination which never existed."

"We in Labor have nothing to be sorry for or ashamed of but every reason for pride in what we

brought forth," he said.

Peres' initial reaction to Barak's apology at Sunday's Labor convention in Netivot was less severe. At the time he said he was "proud of the Labor legacy in the early days of the state."

Sources said that Peres had also gotten Barak to remove a phrase from his statement that would have said the apology was made in "the name of past Labor generations."

A senior source said that Peres chose to wait with his criticism to avoid making it a focus at the convention, where Barak was assured of getting majority support for the apology.

Peres also wanted to avoid being seen as foiling Barak's efforts to boost his electoral appeal, the source said.

Other sources described Peres as angry and even hurt that Barak presumed to apologize on behalf of past generations—including Peres—

as though he were trying to come off as more just or morally correct than they were.

Barak urged co-partisans in a New Year's toast at Labor headquarters yesterday "to conduct themselves as a Jew should in the ten days of repentance between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur and refrain from attacking the prime minister and his government. These are days in which each Jew is obliged to engage in soul-searching and in promoting harmony."

Then on a less harmonious note, he asserted that "as we do our soul-searching, it will be clear to each of us that the past 15 months of the Netanyahu government were months of utter abysmal failure, with no peace, no security and no hope. My leadership could defeat despair and restore hope."

Some party employees, who are in a labor dispute with Barak, boycotted the toast.

PA launches a drive to save universities

By STEVE RODAN

Palestinian Authority Higher Education Minister Hanan Ashrawi has launched a campaign to ensure university studies for 40,000 Palestinian students who, she said, are finding it increasingly difficult to pay for their education.

"I need to raise \$5 million a semester, or \$10 million a year," Ashrawi said. "We are facing an institutional breakdown in the public and private sector, and the last thing we need is for students to go out into the streets."

Ashrawi said she is trying to prevent students from striking to

protest plans to raise university fees. Currently, she said, students pay an average of \$350 per semester, about 25 percent of the real cost.

Student leaders and PA officials have been negotiating to prevent a steep rise in tuition. The students said they have been hurt by deteriorating economic conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

PA officials have pledged that university students will pay the current rates, while new students will pay an undetermined increase that will be counted against a rate to be set in the future.

"The students know we have to

raise the fees," Ashrawi said. "The institutions can't continue like this. But we can't raise the fees so the students can't afford the tuition."

Ashrawi said the PA cannot raise funds to maintain current tuition fees. She said the authority has not instituted a tax to pay for higher education and has not succeeded in obtaining funds from donor nations.

As a result, Ashrawi is raising money from European Union nations. She said so far she has won a pledge of \$1 million from Holland, one-tenth of what the universities need for the coming school year.

Palestinian who provided safe house for Waxman kidnappers captured

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The Palestinian who provided the safe house where Hamas terrorists held and later murdered kidnapped IDF soldier Cpl. Nahshon Waxman in 1994 has been held since he tried to slip back into the country from Jordan 11 days ago.

The Beit El military court yesterday remanded Ziad Zehudi Najib until October 6 on suspicion of aiding terrorists, the army said. Security forces are still interrogating Najib about his role in the October 1994 kidnapping.

Najib, of Bir Naballah, was detained after he crossed the Allenby Bridge on September 18. He owned the two-story house to which the Hamas terror cell brought Waxman after he was kidnapped while hitchhiking near Lod.

According to the charge sheet, Najib is the cousin of Zakharia Najib, the man responsible for providing the logistics for the terrorist squad. Najib handed over the keys to his cousin and later, according to the charge sheet, met with the four armed terrorists and was present when they videotaped Waxman alive.

Najib later delivered the tape, in which the kidnappers threatened to kill Waxman unless 200 Hamas activists were released, to Beit Hanina and gave the kidnappers food and clothing, the charge sheet said.

Two days before the fateful assault on the hideout, Najib fled with his wife to Jordan.

Maj. Nir Poraz, head of the commando unit which assaulted the house, was killed, as were three of the kidnappers. Waxman was found bound and dead inside. The IDF says he was shot at point-blank range by the terrorists.

Detained Palestinians end court boycott

Eight hundred Palestinians under administrative detention have decided to end a 14-month boycott against appeals courts, hoping to get fair hearings, attorney Jawad Boulos said yesterday.

Boulos said the detainees had been boycotting military appeals courts since August 1996, deeming them unfair.

Administrative detainees are jailed for renewable six-month periods by military order without charges or trial. They have the right to appeal to a military court, but Boulos said intervention by the General Security Service subverts the judicial process and makes a farce of the appeals.

"The 800 Palestinian administrative detainees decided today they will again test the even-handedness of Israeli courts and, as of today, will return to court to appeal against their illegal detention," Boulos told a news conference in Ramallah.

"There is promise from the IDF judge advocate-general that the courts will be impartial and will not allow the intelligence apparatus to intervene in the cases," he said.

Boulos said about 420 Palestinians were placed in administrative detention after the two recent terror bombings in Jerusalem. (Reuters)

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Silhot

On the eve of Rosh Hashana, commentary on the validity of Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak's apology to Sephardim dominated the Hebrew press.

"What should we apologize for?" asks Raya Herik in *Ma'ariv*. "For the attempts we made to absorb them, which they view as coercion? For our need to help, which is viewed as arrogance? That after two generations of taking root, it is easier to blame the 'establishment' for failures rather than accept responsibility for their own fate?"

Dan Margalit in *Ha'aretz* claims that the apology was justified, and it is better late than never. "The apology is for the arrogance that led the social-democratic Ashkenazim to believe that they knew better than the Yemenites, the Moroccans, and the Iraqis what is best for them." He adds that the reason the Sephardi community supported the Likud was because it was rejected by Mapai.

"If Ehud Barak were to do his

homework, he would find that in this country there are many public representatives, among them MKs and former ministers, who make their living from ethnic incitement," states Mordechai Gilat in *Yediot Aharonot*. "These people should ask for forgiveness... but they would never do that... they are smart. Their name is not Ehud Barak."

The Olmert verdict

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert's acquittal on charges of fraud will force the State Attorney's Office to conduct a penetrating policy review, says Asher Maoz in *Yediot*. He writes that "it is doubtful whether prosecuting [public figures] is always decided upon with the utmost discretion," and adds that unjust prosecution not only harms the accused, but also to the state. "The state's resources, whether the state attorney's or the courts', are limited and should be distributed with care."

Ma'ariv's Shalom Yerushalmi addresses the implication of the acquittal for the next election.

"On the national front, [Judge] Mudrick has opened the door to the Prime Minister's Office for Olmert." He states that Olmert has a good chance of overcoming any adversary from the Labor Party, therefore Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Avigdor Lieberman, his director-general, fear him. "For both of them, Olmert's acquittal is a warning sign; Olmert fulfills the conditions to run for the leadership."

"Netanyahu's problem is that he is helpless as far as Olmert is concerned," asserts Yossi Venter in *Ha'aretz*, adding that Netanyahu cannot push Olmert against the wall and cause him to resign the way he did Dan Meridor and Ze'ev Begin. "[Olmert] is immune from any penalty and is now a concrete threat."

Intelligent conclusions

Netanyahu's rejection of a Military Intelligence evaluation that without the renewal of negotiations, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat could not

fight terror, provoked an assortment of opinions.

Moshe Zak in *Ma'ariv* justifies the prime minister's right to disregard intelligence judgements, stating that many leaders in the past have justifiably disregarded false conclusions. "Intelligence is not a meteorological station... it is meant to assemble authorized current information and not deal with prophecies that are usually a gamble," he writes.

"In his unprofessional hands, Netanyahu took the responsibility that no prime minister has ever taken," writes Oren Shahor in *Yediot*. "Taking personal responsibility in this matter is like taking no responsibility for the Israeli public."

The strike failed

"The 'general strike' was not at all general," writes *Ma'ariv*'s Yosef Lapid, referring to the lack of cooperation with Histadrut policy by different sectors. "The strike has achieved two things," he says. "It has caused public aggravation and economic damage."

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TA girl's great-grandfather's grave desecrated in Warsaw

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

A Tel Aviv schoolgirl's discovery of her great-grandfather's desecrated grave in Warsaw has once again signalled the need for a more comprehensive effort to safeguard Jewish sites there.

Joseph Frenkel sent his daughter Billi, 17, on a trip to Poland with a delegation of pupils from Tel Aviv's Lady Davis School last month, thinking she would get in touch with her roots. He never realized just how true that would be.

"On their first day in Warsaw, the delegation decided to go to the Jewish cemetery in the city," Frenkel said yesterday. "My grandfather's grave is there; he was a well-known rabbi who died in 1922. His grave is in a small mausoleum. My daughter had prepared some words about her grandfather and my mother's family, most of whom were killed by the Nazis."

His daughter recalled how she found the mausoleum. "When I came in, I was in shock, because we found antisemitic epithets daubed on the wall and on the grave, including: 'Zyklon B is still waiting for the Jews,' Billi said yesterday."

"I cried. My father had given me something to read at the grave, and I did, but I was overcome with sadness, and I was also very angry."

Among the drawings desecrating the grave of Rabbi Yoseph Aharon Rabinowitz is a Jewish star which has been made to look like the devil and is hung from a scaffold; a hooded figure whose tunic is emblazoned with a swastika and whose shield bears a cross; a burning cross, and a spider.

Frenkel said the pupils encountered similar things elsewhere in Poland, were spit at and cursed by Polish hooligans, had water

poured on them from windows, and were forced to pay to take photographs at the Maidanek concentration camp.

"I thought the time when Poles spit on Jews had passed," Frenkel said. "If not, the question I have

yesterday, expressing his deep regret over the incident and the "barbarian behavior of a group of antisemites unfortunately experienced by your daughter," and promising Frenkel's remarks would be passed on to the mayor

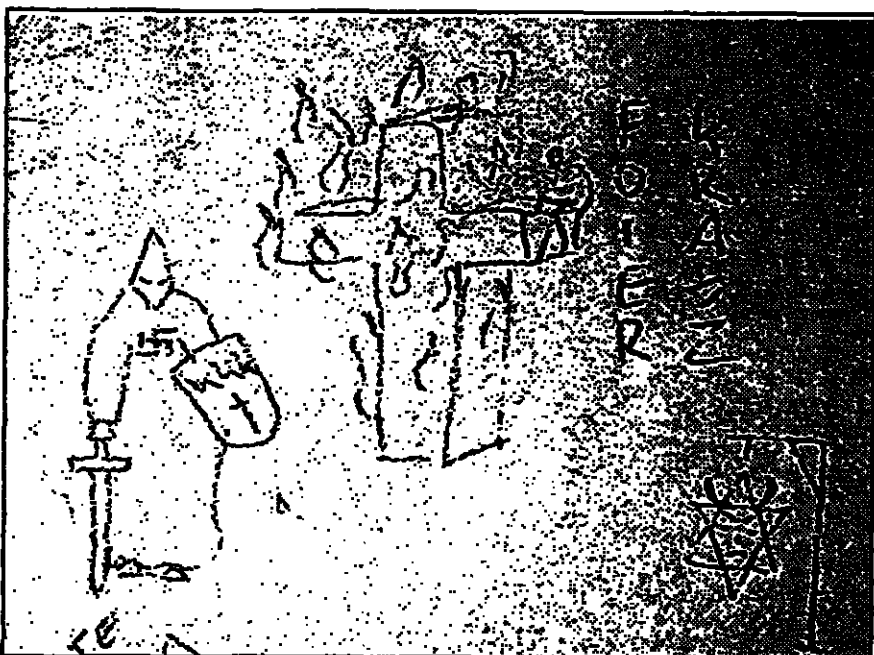
of Warsaw and Polish government officials. Puchta said that authorities at the Maidanek concentration camp charge a fee "to anyone who wants to bring in a camera."

Puchta said that the Polish government had established a special foundation in 1992 "specifically to take care of Jewish cemeteries and monuments." He said that the money for this effort is provided "solely by the Polish government," even though efforts had been made to interest Jewish groups in participating in it. "No one seemed interested," he said, "although we hope we will find people who are sensitive to the idea of cooperating with Polish partners on this project."

Frenkel rejected the offer, however, saying: "Why would we want to invest money in keeping the cemeteries and other Jewish sites. Puchta agreed that this might be a promising solution."

Ravner said that the number of desecrations involving more than one or two graves was very small, "certainly less than in France," and that "when the authorities do catch someone, they bring them to trial."

Most of the efforts by the Polish government have focused on preserving concentration camp sites, Ravner said. He added that in a small number of towns, local officials had taken the initiative in preserving Jewish sites, some as an act of conscience, others only after Jewish groups visited. Either way, he said, this is a negligible portion of what needs to be preserved in a nation where 3.5 million Jews lived before the war.



Graffiti in the desecrated mausoleum of Rabbi Yoseph Rabinowitz. (Billi Frenkel)

for the Education Ministry is why we are continuing these visits? If the Polish government does not uproot all these hooligans, we must stop visiting there. Why should we give them money?"

Frenkel wrote to Polish Ambassador Wojciech Adamiecki demanding the cemetery be cleaned of the epithets. He also asked him to "relay to the Polish government our astonishment and disappointment that these scum continue to sew poisonous hate against the Jewish people."

Piotr Puchta, the counselor for political affairs at the embassy in Tel Aviv, said Polish authorities in Warsaw would be instructed to have the antisemitic drawings removed from the grave and mausoleum.

Adamiecki wrote to Frenkel

Government may pressure Ethiopians to leave caravans

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Absorption Ministry officials said yesterday they were studying the possibility of taking "strong action" against Ethiopian immigrants still living in caravans, to persuade them to move to permanent housing.

The ministry said they may raise rents, cut community services and reduce public transportation to trailer sites. Officials said they may also ask Amidar, the government housing company, to take legal action or otherwise help get the residents to leave the trailers.

The ministry announced plans two months ago to shut the trailer camps, which were set up only as temporary housing, by next February.

A ministry spokesman said that young Ethiopian

immigrants were offered a NIS 180,000 mortgage, NIS 134,000 of which is a grant, as incentives to purchase housing. An information campaign has been launched on radio and television, in Amharic, to explain these incentives.

Moshe Bata, director of the United Ethiopian Jewish Association, complained that the ministry had rebuffed their offers of help to persuade immigrants to leave the trailers.

"The Absorption Ministry is hiding from us," Bata said.

"They are trying to make the Ethiopians look like the bad guys."

Bata also intimated that Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein wasn't representing all the nation's immigrant groups.



Society for the Preservation of Nature in Israel wardens yesterday welcome a vulture born in captivity to a retreat on Mt. Carmel, where it will be prepared for release into the wild next year. (Hersch Glitski)

Recuperated vulture flies home

By DAVID RUDGE

A fledgling vulture that was found injured on the Golan Heights over a month ago was returned to the wild yesterday

after a period of treatment and rehabilitation.

The young vulture, named Rakiya (sky), took to the skies over Gama on the southern reaches of the Golan after being

set free.

It had been found by Nature Reserves Authority wardens and was flown courtesy of Arkia Airlines to Tel Aviv, for treatment at Abu Kabir Veterinary Hospital. The treatment was part of a project called "Born Free," run by the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI) in conjunction with the Thauva company. After receiving care, the vulture then spent a period of rehabilitation at SPNI's acclimatization center on Mt. Carmel, near Zichron Ya'acov, before being released back to the wild.

In the meantime, its place at the acclimatization center has been taken by another fledgling vulture, one raised completely at the Abu Kabir hospital and nature park.

SPNI officials said the second bird was hatched in an incubator and then raised by "foster parents" - a pair of vultures named Goliath and Hagar - until it was able to fend for itself.

The vulture will now spend several months at the acclimatization center until it is ready to be released to the wild. SPNI spokesman Ori Nevo said that 40 vultures have been released to the wild as part of the society's project.

"The vulture is an integral and very important part of the natural eco-system and is actually at the top of the pyramid," said Nevo. "As a bird of prey that feeds primarily on scavengers, even ones as big as hyenas, it is very helpful to mankind, apart from being the kind of bird which is beautiful to watch in flight, which in turn attracts many ornithologists," she added.

New civilian emergency chief named

By ARYEH O'SULLIVAN

Brig.-Gen. (res.) Arnon Ben-Ami has been named by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai as acting chairman of the Civilian Emergency Administration (Meilah), thus filling in one of two posts whose role will be particularly vital for the civilian population in the event of a war.

Ben-Ami, 48, a resident of Jerusalem and decorated hero from the Yom Kippur War, recently retired from the IDF, where he held a senior post in the Homefront Command.

In his new post, Ben-Ami will be responsible for ensuring that vital needs, such as food delivery, electricity production, and transportation, are met during time of national crisis or war.

Mordechai and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak have yet to decide who is to be named OC Homefront Command, a position that has been vacant since Maj.-Gen. Shmuel Arad decided to retire last month.

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Workers use hoes to fill up a mass grave yesterday for the 48 unidentified victims of the Garuda Airlines crash in Medan, 1,400 km. northwest of Jakarta. The crash, which may have been due to haze, claimed 237 lives.

Taking a stand on moonshine

In an effort to curb a growing black market, Russia is refusing to allow trucks laden with allegedly illegal alcohol to cross the Georgian border

By RICHARD C. PADDOCK

KAZBEGI CHECKPOINT, Georgia — Truck driver Taimuraz Taimazov heats his spaghetti with a blowtorch. His kitchen table is a plank by the side of the road, and he sleeps in his cab in a long line of trucks parked near the Russian border.

For the past five weeks, the trucker has been stuck in this narrow mountain pass in a dispute with his native Russia, but he never lacks for something to drink: He is hauling 30 tons of nearly pure alcohol.

"I've been sitting here for more than a month," said Taimazov, who has broken open his shipment to help pass the time. "If the alcohol was bad, we'd be dead by now."

To Georgian authorities, Taimazov and his fellow drivers are law-abiding and carry legitimate cargo. But to Russia, they are smugglers trying to sneak ethyl alcohol across the border for the manufacture of low-grade, illegal — and sometimes lethal — vodka.

Russian officials say the illegal trade in alcohol is costing the government nearly \$6 million a day in lost tax revenues and contributing to a soaring increase in deaths across the nation from the consumption of poisonous moon-

shine vodka.

In mid-July, Russia closed its border with Georgia to trucks hauling untaxed, unlicensed alcohol. As a result, hundreds of Russian and Georgian trucks have been stuck for weeks at a time in a no man's land at the Kazbegi border post, unable to enter Russia and unwilling to head back into Georgia.

Russia's refusal to allow the alcohol into the country — unusual enough in itself — has touched off a heated dispute with Georgia and created a bizarre scene at the Kazbegi border crossing, where truckers camp, drink, and slaughter sheep for dinner near the ruins of a 12th-century castle.

Georgian officials estimate that some 1,000 trucks have been blocked from entering Russia, depriving the world's most ardent drinkers of 10,000 to 20,000 tons of alcohol.

In a nationwide radio address, Russian President Boris Yeltsin defended the decision to keep out the trucks, saying that the production of illicit vodka in Russia is undermining legitimate, "tax-paying distilleries and costing the government the equivalent of \$172 million a month in lost tax revenues."

"State control over the alcohol market has virtually been lost."

Yeltsin declared. "I demand that order be introduced in the manufacture and sale of alcohol." In Soviet times, taxes on alcohol contributed 25% of Russia's budget. Today, the amount has fallen to just 5%. Funds that once supported the government now finance a vast network of bootlegging and other criminal activity, he said.

"The money goes to those who evade taxes for the manufacture or import of alcohol," Yeltsin said. "The money also goes to corrupt law enforcement staff, to officials, and a great number of them profit from this business."

Until Russia began its blockade, bootleggers were importing ethyl alcohol from at least 17 countries, including the US and Canada. Typically, they would dilute the 96% pure alcohol with water, bottle it to look like legitimate brands of vodka, ship it to cities around the country and sell it at stores and sidewalk kiosks.

Russian officials say that 70% of all vodka sold in the country is now produced illegally in North Ossetia — a Russian republic near the Georgian border where most of the stranded trucks were bound.

With so much alcohol being produced without even token state inspections or health regulations, the number of deaths from alcohol poisoning has nearly tripled in the past five years, Yeltsin said.

The government estimates that 35,000 Russians died from alcohol poisoning last year. Some analysts put the number at many thousands more. Episodes of mass poisonings from tainted alcohol have become commonplace. Spot checks of vodka sold from street kiosks have found that up to 50% is unfit for consumption, Yeltsin said.

While the Georgian government does not question Russia's right to halt the shipment of alcohol into the country, it is not happy about the way its giant neighbor is carrying out its new policy. Instead of following the common practice of letting trucks reach the border post, inspecting them and seizing any illicit cargo, Russia has forced the trucks to remain on the Georgian side. "They should be dealing with the problem on their

side of the border, not ours," protested Valery Chkheidze, chief of Georgia's border guards.

Georgian officials worry that the huge quantity of highly flammable alcohol could result in a disastrous explosion, permanently shutting down the main road that leads from Russia to Georgia and Armenia. A rockslide has already killed two truckers. A third driver died in an apparent suicide.

In Moscow, Russian officials say they plan to keep the border shut tight to alcohol shipments. "This moonshine will make it into Russia over our dead bodies," said Sergei D. Ivanchenko, chief spokesman for the Russian border guards. "The time has come to do things in the right way in Russia. Laws should be observed, and starting with vodka is not a bad choice."

But according to Georgian officials, about 150 trucks have managed to find gaps in the border in recent days. Some have crossed at the Kazbegi checkpoint, their alcohol disguised as mineral water, while others have found their way into Russia through Azerbaijan.

At the peak, there were more than 350 alcohol trucks parked in the area. But the number has fallen in recent days, in part because Georgia has ordered trucks licensed in its country to return south. But more than 170 trucks remain, partly because those licensed in Russia would have to pay a hefty return tax to Georgia if they turned around now.

Many of the drivers acknowledge that they do not have the required documents to prove that taxes have been paid to Russia for their shipments, but they are not concerned with whether their cargo is legal under Russian law. As the nights get colder, some of the drivers have used alcohol from their shipments to heat their cabs by burning it in old soda cans. Others use it to keep warm the old-fashioned way: by drinking it.

Taimazov, the Russian trucker, said the owner of his shipment will not mind that he opened up one of the 200-liter barrels in his truck and helped himself. "I think they will understand our predicament," he said. (Los Angeles Times)

Calendars

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Fantasy of Jewish Festivals. Display calendar, illustrated in charming naive style by Heinz Seelig, well-known "primitive" painter. Eleven paintings, one per page, embellished with gold, may be framed. Includes page of explanations about the holidays in Spanish/English/Hebrew. Size: 24.5 cm x 33.5 cm (9 3/4" x 13 1/4"). JP Price: NIS 49

ILLUMINATIONS. With illustrations from The British Library. Sixteen months of glorious illuminated manuscripts. 13 plates of biblical scenes from the golden Haggadah (c. 1320) from the British Library. September 1997 through December 1998, with large spaces for appointments, all Jewish holidays, candle-lighting times and Jewish dates. Size: 30.5 cm x 34 cm (12" x 13"). JP Price: NIS 52

5 separate calendars NIS 39 EACH. Splendor of the Holy Land - David Roberts. Skyviews of Israel - Israel 1997-98. Jerusalem 1997-98. Fifteen months from October 1997 through December 1998 with large spaces for appointments. Mir and match favorite lithographs by David Roberts, stunning aerial views of Israel and a new beautifully designed photography calendar, "Skyviews of Israel". Popular favorites "Israel" and "Jerusalem" calendars return with dramatic, colorful scenic photographs. Size: 22.5 cm x 25.5 cm (8 7/8" x 10"). JP Price: NIS 39 each

Jewish Engagement Calendar 1998. Popular and useful spiral bound desk calendar, one week per page, illustrated with 26 magnificent full-color photographs from the collection of The Israel Museum. 15 months from October 1997 through December 1998, with large spaces for appointments. Includes all Jewish and North American holidays, world candle-lighting times, holiday chart through 2012, weekly Torah readings. Size: 16 cm x 23 cm (6 1/4" x 9"). JP Price: NIS 48

Beautiful Israel Hebrew Manuscripts. Ben Avraham. These display calendars with one color plate of a publishing page per page. Calligrapher David Ben Avraham, full color photographs of Israeli street scenes and lively cultural Hebrew manuscript pages are featured in this triple selection. Each is 20 cm x 27.5 cm (7 7/8" x 10 7/8"). JP Price: NIS 28 each

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Israel - The Lights from Within. Frameable photographs of various sites in Jerusalem, Safed, and throughout Israel, by Jody Segal, with appointments spaces, candle-lighting times and holidays. Size: 16.5 cm x 24 cm (6 1/2" x 9 1/2"). JP Price: NIS 39

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De-bugging a US embassy

MOSCOW — Behind a huge white shroud a mile from the Kremlin, construction crews are working in secret to clean up one of the biggest embarrassments of the Cold War. In the US Embassy compound, a six-story curtain surrounds the chancery building that was once supposed to be the top-secret nerve center of United States operations in the Soviet Union. These days, the steady sound of jackhammers comes from behind the curtain. Occasionally, a crane dumps a load of bricks into a truck waiting to haul away debris. The workers are eradicating bugs — thousands of bugs — planted by Soviet spies during construction of the building that proved to be a multimillion-dollar mistake. "This is like the Berlin Wall coming down," said Yuri Boyarsky, a US citizen who works at the embassy and lives near the chancery. "It's a new era." Soon after construction began on the embassy in 1979, the State Department discovered that the Russian workers employed for the job were planting listening devices in the structure. US officials said they thought they would be able to render the bugs ineffective before the building was occupied. But in 1985, when work on the chancery was nearly complete, they realized that hidden microphones embedded in the bricks and building materials were so numerous and so cleverly designed that there was no way to remove or neutralize them without demolishing the structure. The chancery became known as "the Great Transmitter" and sat unoccupied for more than a decade. As a gesture of friendship after the 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union, Russian security services handed over the bugging plan for the building to the Americans in Moscow. US officials will not say whether the information was of any help in devising the chancery remodeling plan. The building originally was constructed as part of a deal in which the Soviet Union and the United States built new embassies for each other. After the revelation of the bugging, US officials refused to let the Russians occupy their new chancery in Washington until 1994, nine years after it was completed. This spring, crews began demolition work on the Moscow structure as part of a plan to transform it into a usable building. Called the "top-hat solution," the idea is to take off the two original top floors and then build four new floors on top of the structure, increasing the height of the building from eight to 10 stories. The new floors will be used for top-secret activity, while the lower six levels, presumably still full of bugs, will be taken over by staff doing non-classified office work. "The people who have decided how to use the new embassy are very comfortable with the fact that they can station people in the part of the building that may contain some bugs," said embassy spokesman Richard Hoagland. So far, the American workers imported for the remodeling job have removed the old top stories and are now taking off the building's brick exterior. With a price tag of \$240 million, the remodeling work on the chancery will cost nearly twice as much as construction of the original building. The chancery also will look very different. The old chancery was a red-brick box built in the "Kansas City federal prison" architectural style, as Hoagland described it. The new building is designed to blend in better with its surroundings, including the nearby White House offices of the Russian government. The building is scheduled to be completed by mid-1999 — 24 years after it was first supposed to be occupied. Like the Berlin Wall, some of the bricks removed from the building are being sold as souvenirs for charity. But there is no guarantee that buyers will get a bug inside. Embassy officials are maintaining a high level of secrecy for the renovation. They refuse to give tours of the work site and will not say much about what is going on behind the white curtain. "The whole building project is classified," Hoagland said. "What is the reason for all the secrecy? No one is saying. That's a secret too." — Richard C. Paddock (Los Angeles Times)

High-tech answers to abuse

New protection devices give women a fighting chance against violence, but the technology has its limitations and could provide a false sense of security

By STEPHANIE SIMON

He's out there. Somewhere. And she's scared. He has promised to chop her into bits. Or shoot her.

She believes him too. He has hurt her already, so many times over so many years: slapped her, ruptured her eardrum, shoved her head through a wall, choked her until blood vessels burst in her eyes. Now he's out of jail. Out there. Out here. He knows where she lives, where she works, where she shops. And she's scared.

But though she trembles, she will not run. Delisa Miles is through with cowering.

And for the first time in her long struggle against domestic violence, the 34-year-old mother of three feels as though someone is backing her up.

For in her hometown in the Silicon Valley, and in communities across the United States, authorities have begun offering women like Miles technology to help them feel safe.

There are panic buttons to summon aid quickly, alarms to warn of approaching danger, computer-generated phone calls to announce that an abuser has posted bail.

No device can protect absolutely, of course, and critics worry that the new technology will give victims a false sense of security. But women like Miles welcome the programs as proof that, at long last, society is willing to try. The technology helps them defy the fear that is always there every minute he's out there.

The potential market for such high-tech security is huge: The FBI estimates that a woman is beaten by a spouse or lover every 9 to 12 seconds. "The offenders are like runaway trains — nothing can stop them," said David Beauty, director of public policy for the National Victim Center. "But technology is giving victims the means to step off the tracks." Miles, for instance, takes some



For the first time in her long struggle against domestic violence, Delisa Miles (right) is through cowering. Pictured with counselor Pam Butler, she wears like a badge an alarm pendant she can press when in danger. (Los Angeles Times by George Nikitin)

comfort from a panic-button pendant that she can press if her boyfriend tries to break into her house. Donated by an alarm company, the pendant will summon police at a touch.

Other victims carry free cellular phones distributed by law enforcement and programmed to dial only 911. One of the new protective electronic tools is an automated notification system known as VINE that alerts women when their batterers walk free from jail. The system — already installed in 340 communities in 20 states — calls the victim

every two hours until she answers and punches in a code to prove she has heard the message.

Also on the market is an electronic surveillance device, being tested in Florida and Pennsylvania, that warns a victim if her abuser invades "hot zones" around her home or office. It builds on technology often used with probationers: The offender wears a bracelet that transmits his location to law enforcement. If he enters a forbidden zone — or cuts off the bracelet — he triggers a computer that dials the victim's phone or pager and alerts police. For all this enthusiasm, victim

advocates are quick to note that the technology has limitations. The alarm pendants, for instance, work only in a victim's home or yard. "When I step outside, I'm wide open," Miles said.

Also, the pendants require a functioning phone line, so an abuser could disable the system by ripping the phone from the wall.

Despite such glitches, victims and their advocates welcome the devices — as much for the message they send as for the results they get. At last, they say, they are being taken seriously, by officers, by politicians who fund the high-

tech programs and by corporate bigwigs who donate supplies.

But some victim advocates fear that high-tech programs might endanger women by lulling them into relaxing their guard.

"I honestly believe they give you a false sense of security," said Donna Diggins, who survived an abusive relationship years ago and counsels other victims.

She believes that battered women must leave town and change their names to stay safe. "If he wants you dead, you're going to be dead," Diggins said. (Los Angeles Times)

Winnie for deputy president

The former wife of South African President Nelson Mandela could gain even more political power, despite new charges of murder

By GILBERT A. LEWTHWAITE

JOHANNESBURG. South Africa — She is a convicted kidnapper who faces new allegations of murder, but Winnie Madikizela-Mandela is also a candidate for the deputy presidency of the ruling African National Congress, which her former husband heads.

It is the sort of brouhaha the fiery politician, once dubbed "Mother of the Nation," appears to love, but it places the ANC in an embarrassing dilemma.

Her selection this month by the women's wing of the ANC to be their candidate for the party's vice presidency could put her in line to become deputy president of the nation when her ex-husband steps down as president in 1999.

Nelson Mandela will resign from the party presidency at the ANC Congress in December, making way for his heir apparent, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, to replace him, first as party leader then, two years later, as national leader.

Madikizela-Mandela, president of the Women's League of the ANC, is a charismatic campaigner with a strong following within the party and must be considered a leading candidate for the deputy's post at both the party and national levels.

She is renowned for overcoming serious setbacks. In 1993, despite her conviction two years earlier for kidnapping 14-year-old ANC activist Stompie Seipei, who had fallen out of favor with her and was killed, and a well-publicized love affair with a young suitor, she was elected Women's League president.

Twelve months later she was voted onto the ANC's national executive council, drawing the fifth-highest vote tally. And in April, with controversy still swirling around her, she was re-elected Women's League president, beating her only opponent by a 5-1 margin.

Her accession to national power would send shock waves through the party leadership, which is adopting a gradual approach to social reform and striving to stick to a middle-of-the-road economic strategy to keep its union allies and big business in line and to attract foreign investment.

Madikizela-Mandela, a populist champion of the poor and an unabashed Africanist, is devoted to improving the lives, health homes and education of the disadvantaged and to empowering blacks through stronger affirmative action programs.

All this is in line with government priorities, but she is much less patient and accommodating than have been her former husband and his Cabinet.

With her in a leadership position, a myriad of policy strains, inside and outside the party, would likely surface.

Her influence on policy would likely increase the concerns of the white minority, threatening an accelerated exodus, a brain drain that South Africa, bedeviled by low economic growth, can ill afford. And, analysts say, foreign investors would hardly be reassured by the elevation of such a flamboyant leftist, possibly putting a crimp on overseas financing the country sorely needs.

But her political prospects are hostage, to an extent, to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which this week will investigate her involvement in the death of Seipei and the disappearance of two other youths during the 1980s. The hearing will be in Johannesburg, behind closed doors.

Madikizela-Mandela has challenged the commission to hold the hearings in public, which the panel has refused to do. Her lawyers say they need more time to prepare.

"Unless the Truth and Reconciliation Commission clears Madikizela-Mandela of these charges, her continued political ascent could do irreparable harm to the ANC and the country as a whole," says the Financial Mail, a business-oriented weekly magazine.

Madikizela-Mandela remains unfazed. No sooner had new allegations of her involvement in the murder of Seipei been published than she called a news conference to declare her innocence and to state that she was ready "to bare my soul to the scrutiny of my country and beg that these issues be tested by the vigilance of the public."

The charges come from a former member of her Mandela United Football Club, a group of young, violent supporters she gathered around her in the 1980s. Her accuser is Katiza Cebekhulu, a suspected police informer who was accused with her in the Seipei kidnapping case but disappeared on the eve of the trial. He accuses Madikizela-Mandela of stabbing Seipei at her house, and has asked the Truth Commission for amnesty for his involvement in the crime.

Madikizela-Mandela has maintained she was out of town when Seipei was killed in December 1988.

The question of who is telling the truth now goes to the truth commission. But the question of Madikizela-Mandela's political future may take longer to resolve. (The Baltimore Sun)

France warms up to Jospin

Four months after he unexpectedly came to power, France's Socialist Prime Minister Lionel Jospin is keeping most of his leftist campaign promises

By ANNE SWARDSON

PARIS. Lionel Jospin's election in June was viewed by much of the outside world as a sign that France remained unready to enter the world of high technology and global competition. During the election campaign he talked mostly about public-sector jobs and shorter working hours.

But since then Jospin has picked his way through the traditional minefields of French politics — militant unions, a public wedded to generous benefits, widespread resistance to any change — without breaking the budget or losing public favor. He has even proposed Internet-friendly policies, a large change in one of Europe's least-wired nations.

Jospin's recent budget proposal is an example of how he has combined his leftist agenda with the

demands of the world at large. By cutting defense spending, raising corporate taxes and ending some benefits for better-off families, he is bringing France within shouting distance of the fiscal criteria for nations wishing to join Europe's planned single currency beginning in 1999.

From the point of view of the average French citizen, there has been little material change since Lionel Jospin was elected last June. But people seem to feel better, polls suggest. Few who toted up the potential cost of his campaign promises last spring would have thought that possible.

Jospin, running at nearly 60 percent approval in the polls these days, has achieved his successes by following what he calls a path of "leftist realism." He has nipped and tugged at areas relatively removed from the central concerns of French voters, such as privati-

zation of state-owned enterprises, while adhering to his expensive campaign promises on such red-hot issues as job creation.

His path, for the moment at least, has achieved a swift result: The French, mired in pessimism for years, are becoming more optimistic, according to opinion polls. "People had very low expectations, and they are discovering they have gotten more than they expected," said Olivier Duhamel, a political science professor.

Jospin's popularity comes at a price, analysts say. By and large, he has not undertaken the rough reforms other European countries have to prepare for global competition, and he does not plan to. France remains a heavily statist country, with such businesses as the national telephone company and the national airline under government control for the foreseeable future.

His new budget relies largely on tax increases, on corporations and families, for its progress in deficit reduction, thus leaving France still with one of the highest tax burdens in the developed world.

Jospin also has been aided by faster-than-expected economic growth, which increases government revenue.

Nor has France's high unemployment rate of 12.5 percent been reduced in Jospin's tenure. France's restive unions and Jospin's Communist allies in Parliament have given him running room so far, but it may not last.

Still, public sentiment is far cheerier here than it was a year ago. Back then, the talk was of "moroseness" and whether France would ever recover from its fundamental pessimism. Magazines were publishing cover stories asking if France was a failure; one newspaper columnist said it was

"in a breakdown of growth, confidence and hope."

From the point of view of the average citizen, there has been little material change since then. But people seem to feel better. A poll by the firm CSA found that only 13 percent of respondents thought things were getting worse, while 33 percent saw improvement and 51 percent saw no change. A year ago, 54 percent were pessimistic about the future.

Jospin himself is riding high in the opinion polls. A survey released Friday showed his approval rating at 58 percent, up from 44 percent when he was elected in June.

Conservative President Jacques Chirac, who shares power with Jospin and is fighting to remain relevant, was running at 46 percent, according to the poll by the IPSOS organization. (The Washington Post)

De-bugging US embassy

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Not guilty

The acquittal of Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert is cause for satisfaction, not just for him personally, but for the small boost given to the public's trust in elected officials. The string of acquittals of major public figures in the past two years does not constitute evidence that the offices of the state attorney and attorney-general have become politicized, as some would charge, but there is room for questioning whether the rush to criminalize condemnable political behavior is both wrong and counterproductive.

The charge against Olmert was that he, as treasurer of the Likud Party in the late 1980s, helped his associate treasurers set up dummy companies to receive illegal campaign contributions. Olmert's associates were convicted of this charge last year. In Olmert's case, the charge was not something that could be dismissed as a borderline offense that fell in the murky area of "breach of trust" - fraud of this type is legitimately considered a criminal matter.

But judging from the number of acquittals of public figures of late, prosecutors have been running to court with charges that are not supported by enough convincing evidence, rather than taking the responsibility of closing unsupportable cases themselves.

It would be unreasonable and undesirable, of course, to expect that government attorneys only recommend indictment when they are convinced they can win the case. The Supreme Court's famous "Buzaglo" standard, which holds that public figures must be treated as any other citizen before the law, is right, but it is not inconsistent with sensitivity toward the special price public figures pay for brushes with the law.

If we are to hold public figures to a higher standard of behavior than others, as we should, then we must also recognize that an indictment for a public figure can be tantamount to a conviction for most people. What is more, the profusion of indictments leading to acquittals does not just take a toll on the individuals involved, but on the public's trust in their legal system.

When acquittals are the norm, rather than the exception, the unfortunate affect is to reduce the seriousness with which the public views the fact of an indictment. It is not a good sign when people become so used to seeing politicians living with indictments for years that indictments have almost ceased to be, politically speaking,

a major liability. The fact that indicted officials may not take certain cabinet posts is almost considered a legal technicality, rather than the understood consequences of being under serious legal suspicion.

The rush to criminalize and indict has also eroded public norms by leading to an equation of legality, morality, and acceptable behavior. The idea that in politics (or in life generally) anything is acceptable so long as it is legal is very destructive. The critical concept of breach of trust certainly includes criminal behavior, but if we are to hold public officials to a higher standard than not being criminals, it must mean more.

The challenge before those seeking clean government is not so much rooting out real crooks as it is improving political norms across the board. But norms will not be improved by singling out politicians for criminal sanctions against behavior that is, sadly, considered acceptable. Israeli society needs to develop public mechanisms that help enforce and establish norms outside of the courts, beyond the criminal sphere.

In the United States, Congressional investigative committees provide such a function. Here, government-appointed commissions have played a similar role, but there is still too strong a tendency to bring in the police rather than a public commission.

The Bar-On Affair, of course, is the classic case of this syndrome at work, with the result being that serious defects in the government's decision making process were papered over by the fact that they were found not to warrant indictments at the highest levels. Worse, the political system seems to have learned almost nothing from the affair, even though State Attorney Edna Arbel and Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein took the unusual step of explaining their decision not to indict in detail.

If, instead, a respected, non-partisan commission were to have handled the matter, the government's actions could have been placed in their proper context, recommendations for changes in norms would have gained substantial political weight, and there would have been a chance of the public deriving some benefit from the long, painful affair. Politics is messy enough as it is without criminalizing it; the courts should be the last, not the first, resort to cleaning up the public square.

OPINION

I THINK WE CAN START



Rough-and-tumble schools

Parents have been shrugging their shoulders for decades at the drudgery shacking public education.

"But that's all there is!" was their discouraged response when faced with new, realistic evidence of a system which managed to make everyone involved in it unhappy: the teachers, the administrators, the parents and, most of all, the students. "What choice do we have?" they'd ask rhetorically.

None, really, was the answer. It took a long time to figure out that choice had to be created, and that parents have the power to create one, or at least to make a valiant attempt.

Slowly, slowly, like a giant waking up and stretching, the parent population is coming to realize that it can have some substantive say. Paying the Education Ministry budget out of their taxes, and forking up hundreds (and sometimes thousands) of shekels a year out of their own pockets in "class dues" on top of that for the privilege of "free" public education ought to give them a voice.

Now, tired of watching child after child start first grade armed with curiosity and a smile and leave high school weighed down by a yawn and a grimace, parents have begun to demand change. The numbers are tiny, but the phenomenon is significant. The attention these efforts are getting from the media testify that they represent - or at least vocalize - a widely perceived social need.

In the few weeks since the school year has opened, there have been reports on a new private school in Ga'ash, a parent-run public school in Ramat Hasharon and the growing trend of middle-of-the-road parents enrolling their children in schools run by the extremely Orthodox. All three approaches are vastly different, but they bear one common element: wresting the control of educating the next generation out of the hands of those who have made it such a bitter pill for so long.

It isn't merely the number of hours these parents seek to change, it is the very basic tenets of the system itself they hope to revamp.

ACTUALLY, education starts out on the right foot. User-friendly

HELEN SCHARY MOTRO

kindergarten strives to teach through interesting hands-on activities, has a relatively high teacher/pupil ratio and uses diverse media to impart analytical concepts. Like the toddlers in *header* who used to be fed sugared letters on their first day, the kindergarten system in Israel is indeed a cookie.

Education as a pleasant experience which inspires learning bears inverse relation to grade-

For financial manipulators, whip-smart lawyers and pushy politicians, the hard asphalt of the Israeli schoolyard may well be the perfect preparatory school.

level. As soon as "real" school begins enjoyment begins to slide - and then to career - downhill.

True, high school students the world over affect impatience and boredom, but by the time Israeli students reach their matriculation exams, learning for learning's sake is but a distant half-remembered idyll. Handcuffed to the high-achievement treadmill as firmly as any experimental mouse, successful matriculation is but the first station of the student's cross.

The rough-and-tumble world of Israeli schools is a microcosm of what awaits them "out there." Primary school pupils learn early that rules are advisory - to be tolerated, manipulated or, ideally, subverted. Second graders look with disdain at those glibly six-year-olds still innocent enough to take a teacher's words at face value.

Loyalty to the collective is forcefully instilled. Transgressing this sacred cow is heresy. Hitting, cheating and slacking off may be frowned upon, yet each is tolerated. "They are children, after all." In contrast, the cardinal sin in an Israeli public school is to tell on another child.

Satching, no matter about what, is unforgivable. When the

teacher or principal urges the class to point out a "culprit," they do not really expect him to be handed over. If he is, the authorities may privately view the tattler with more distaste than the offender. They are secretly proud of a closed-mouthed class which endures the routine of collective punishment rather than squeal - it's the Israeli way.

Classroom clamor never fails to assault anew. Lack of acoustic protection, constant talking, calling out, raised voices, interruptions, a bell which can be heard on the other side of town - these all seemingly would lead more to the development of migraines than of math skills.

Once, when I suggested a quiet corner for my child to do some individual work, the teacher looked at me with wide uncomprehending astonishment. "But it's good for her to learn to work amidst noise," she insisted. Mega-decibel Israeli life may bear out the wisdom of her words.

Like the society, schools are goal-oriented par excellence. Children carry home report cards before they are old enough to read them. As soon as a student drops his heavy bookbag on the floor of his first grade classroom, he is beginning to sharpen the pencils for his psychometric.

Janusz Korczak advocated democratic egalitarian educational ideas viewed as too radical in the very country which prides itself on honoring his memory.

Instead, Israel has opted for a system Charles Darwin could have cited as a prime example of survival of the fittest.

Yet for the financial manipulators, whip-smart lawyers and pushy politicians of the year 2025, the hard asphalt of the Israeli schoolyard may well be the perfect preparatory school.

Education is not as uniformly dark as the black September I've painted.

Changes instituted now will spill over into adulthood. They may be the key to making society into a pleasant, gentler place. In the meantime, I am rushing out to be on time for the year's first parent/teacher meeting, trying hard to keep my mind off *Lord of the Flies*.

The writer is a freelance writer and an attorney.

The age of dissonance

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

Never before, in close to fifty years of Israeli history, have the dissonances between the government's policies and reality been as great as they are today. In the course of his visit to Israel last week, Czech President Vaclav Havel announced that there is no doubt in his mind that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu wants peace. Though we do not really know how Netanyahu perceives the desired state of peace, we may assume it is a situation in which Jews and Arabs are not killed in mutual acts of hostility and that neither people has a strong incentive to seek to change the status quo by force.

The dissonance here is that while most of the experts (military intelligence, the General Security Service and academics specializing in the issue) believe that in order to achieve peace, the Palestinian leadership must have a real incentive to want it and that Israel can do much to provide such an incentive - our prime minister and many of his ministers seem to believe that the leaders of the other side can somehow be convinced to give Israel everything it wants, without anything in return.

Furthermore, they seem to believe that the more they degrade

the Palestinian leadership, the greater the hardships they impose on the Palestinian population and the more widespread Jewish settlement activities are in controversial locations, the greater the likelihood that the Palestinians will fight decisively against Hamas, and Israel will get the peace it wants on its own terms.

Last week, Tourism Minister Moshe Karzav, who also holds the title of deputy prime minister, provided the explanation for such dissonance: *weltanschauung*. He is right. A debate in which one side perceives of the earth as being round and the other perceives it as flat, is a debate based on different perceptions of the world.

BUT the dissonances do not only exist in the political sphere. They are even stronger in economic matters. Here the prime minister is much clearer in his goals: He wants a prosperous economy based on *laissez-faire* economics which inter alia, demands massive privatization. In both the Israeli and the world business communities there is unanimity of opinion to the effect that the primary conditions for major economic growth and

prosperity in Israel is peace, which will lead to a true integration of Israel into the world economy.

The prime minister, on the other hand, whose attitude towards peace is ambivalent at best, seems to believe that prosperity can be based solely on the interest-rate and foreign-exchange policies of the Bank of Israel - and on good Jews like Tbd Arison, Lev Leviev and Charles Bronfman (if they can somehow be separated from the Robert Maxwell, Gregory Lerner and Irving Moskowitzes) gaining control over large chunks of the Israeli economy.

One wonders whether Netanyahu is at all disturbed by the fact that in all recent major business purchases here, not a single solid multinational, free of any Zionist or Jewish considerations, was involved.

As we stand at the doorstep of the year 5758, we should wish ourselves that next year, Cartesian logic takes over from whatever currently guides our government. If Netanyahu and his team could somehow be made to see the connection between mind and matter, and between thought and extension, perhaps the new year will prove to be a better one than the year now ending.

The writer is a political scientist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PASSPORT TO ETERNITY

Sir, - Although as a Holocaust survivor I shudder at the mere mention of so-called euthanasia, I feel that there are a very few cases of mercy-killing involving true compassion, and that, for instance, some dinosaurs kept artificially alive would cause less harm as an extinct gigantic reptile.

The Histadrut, by shamelessly becoming a capitalistic enterprise par excellence and by bleeding Kapat Holim dry for its own dubious purposes, ultimately defend-

ing the rich against the poor, and now not even showing any compunction whatsoever in maiming the National Insurance Institute's services upon which the weakest population depends for its livelihood just before the High Holydays, has thereby to my mind dispensed its own passport to eternity.

PROF. MARGE E. LANDSBERG

Haifa.

BEZEQ BUNGLES

Sir, - Some months ago I purchased a cordless phone from Bezeq which soon did not function properly and then broke down completely.

I telephoned Bezeq to enquire as to where to take the instrument for repair in Jerusalem and was told to go to their offices adjoining Center 1. My daughter telephoned Bezeq again to confirm these instructions, but on each of several occasions she had to hold on indefinitely.

I then went to Bezeq near Center 1 and was told to go to their shop at 19 Jaffa Road. However, on arriving there I was

told that the phone would not be replaced but repaired free under the guarantee, which would take a minimum of two weeks. I would then have to pick up the phone. I requested that it be either delivered to me or at least to the Bezeq offices near Center 1, but was refused.

Bezeq is constantly advertising more, and allegedly better, new-fangled services. However, have they forgotten how to give the basic services to their customers?

JOHANNA S. KRITZLER

Jerusalem

SELF-FULFILLING PROPHECY

Sir, - Talking out of turn seems to be a national malady - and one that must be stopped in the interests of both self-respect and security.

One particular example was Chief of Staff Amnon Shahak's inappropriate and inexcusable reference to this people as having lost its backbone, as having had its spirit eroded. Whether this is a fact or not - and I think not - is really irrelevant. What is true, certainly, is that Shahak did not base his statement on serious research data, making it irresponsible at a number of levels. It is true, too, that civilian morale is not the area of Shahak's competence; it is not his responsibility, and it is certainly not an area of his expertise.

What is true, furthermore, is that such comments can work to give aid and succor to the enemy, even prompt him to continue acts that demoralize a civilian population. Not to be overlooked, too, is that for those who see the chief of staff as an authority figure, such comments may well affect and convince them that this is indeed the case, and bring about the very state that may not have been extant before.

DR. JEANETTE DERSHOWITZ

Herzliya Pimah

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On September 30, 1937, *The Palestine Post* reported the death in London of Lord Peel, the chairman of the Palestine Royal Commission.

Dr. I. Grunbaum of the Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod Executive, who had returned from Poland, depicted the plight of the East European Jewry. He believed that unless a call came from the Yishuv to rouse the Jewish communities to a realization of what was at stake in Palestine, the Jewish masses were in danger of relapsing into a contemplation of their own problems and difficulties, to the exclusion

of Palestine development.

50 years ago: On September 30, 1947, *The Palestine Post* reported that striking at Northern Police Headquarters in Haifa for the second time, the Irgun Zvai Leumi exploded a bomb causing the loss of 10 lives and injuring 54 persons, 13 of them seriously. Six men, described as British, attacked passersby with wooden clubs on Haifa's Hadar Hacarmel. Shots were also fired in crowded Herzl street, but no one was hurt.

Two more "illegal" immigrant ships were reported to have left

Black Sea ports for Palestine.

The Palestine Arab High Executive warned the UN General Assembly to abandon all proposals for a Jewish homeland in the Holy Land. Ben-Gurion, in his comment on Mr. Creech Jones's address to the UN in which he announced that Britain was pulling out from Palestine, demanded an immediate creation of a Jewish State.

Two explosions shook Jerusalem, while a number of British soldiers were injured by a mine near Petah Tikva.

Alexander Zvielli

Can we clean up the act?

WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.

It's ironic but horribly true to life that the Democrats are profiteering from the Democratic election scandals. Here is the situation:

As the investigations proceed, it becomes clearer and clearer that the White House is a stinkpot. So do something about the White House?

Well, no. Do something about what causes all those noisome fumes, which is elections.

Of course there is the White House pointing out ("As I have been recommending for five years" - Clinton) the need for election reform. And the only time in town these days is Sen. John McCain's reform bill.

But it is a bill the majority of Senate Republicans don't want, for reasons personal and professional. Without soft money, Republican office-seekers would have a harder time of it. And the proposed attempts to outlaw soft money, as described and envisioned in the McCain bill, would bring in a second tectonic age of regulation and countervailing antiauthority. Here are the two poles.

1. The expenses for electioneering have to do with the public business. Just as it is a public burden to pay the money necessary to construct poll machines, so is it a public burden to give the voters the programs of the competitors. Therefore the government should pay the cost of radio, television and newspaper advertisements and no private expenditures should be authorized.

2. Democratic engagements presuppose contests. It is entirely an entrepreneurial matter what goes into those contests. If the widow Angelina wants to give her entire fortune to the cause of Candidate Smith, that is her concern and hers alone.

The distinction between soft and hard money is difficult to define and impossible to enforce. So: Get out of the way - this is "Atlas Shrugged" time.

The second school makes the single concession: namely that all contributions should be American in origin and that a gift should be instantly traceable. Tokyo could not legally subsidize a candidacy, but General Motors could - provided the subsidy were instantly made public. You make the gift at noon. By noon the following day, you've informed the Internet.

Both models are intellectually tolerable. What discourages any enthusiasm for either is the nagging foreknowledge that although public officials are necessary, voters intuitively focus on the nexus between civic ambition and avarice. In the public sector, avarice comes in the orthodox tender - money; and in the alternative tender of power, it is nice for a politician to have both, but there are many who will sacrifice a lot of the former for a little of the latter.

Consider the wealthy politician who is willing to spend \$20 million in return for a seat in the Senate, where he exercises power and, in recognition of his status, gets free parking. The voter is entitled to wonder whether the public official is being subsidized by constituents who want to be beneficiaries in the distribution of goods and services the public official will now be distributing.

We wonder why the great majority of Americans hold Congress in such low esteem. Rather, we don't wonder why Americans hold Congress in such low esteem: Congress is there, in the famous indictment, to substitute political for economic means of self-aggrandizement.

What the Republicans very much need is a bill to which the modifier "reform" can be attached that at least will satisfy some members of the public that the GOP is concerned with the mess in hand. They face the disadvantages always faced by the strategically sensible alternative. Advantages are immediately had by those who hold that the elimination of any limit on spending is an invitation to the rich to buy congressmen. GOP spokesmen can point to the hundreds of millions in soft money doled out by the labor unions.

There are two ways to handle that problem. One is to enforce the Supreme Court's Beck decision, which denies a union the right to spend members' money on political causes without the individual member's consent. Another is to say: Let the unions spend as they will, but record every dollar of it as a political donation, even as every dollar given by corporations is currently recorded under the law.

But do away with the soft-money-hard-money blur. We need an open season on political spending. Say an eight-year trial period. No holds barred, but a copy of everything to the Internet. See what happens.

Could it be worse?

The writer is a political scientist. (Universal Press Syndicate)

Can we clean up the act?

WILLIAM F. DUCKLEY JR.

Pupils who write their own ten commandments

Can you teach religious and secular youngsters Jewish tradition in the same classroom? Aryeh Dean Cohen visited the mixed settlement of Tekoa to learn how it's being done

There's something different about the Ahdut Yisrael school in Tekoa, including their Ten Commandments.

While other schools make do with traditional explanations of the Thou Shalt and Shalt Not, Tekoa youngsters write their own list of commandments. That is just one example of an exercise in a school where the approach to learning about Jewish tradition is uniquely tailored to the school's unusual student body: observant and non-observant youngsters, studying in the same classrooms.

"We discussed what laws we would establish in our classroom and the children each wrote 10 laws they thought were the most important, so that our society would be a better one."

A visitor could see some examples still on the board: "Don't turn your back on people" and "Don't destroy nature." Other "commandments" related to road safety.

Third-graders raced by; some boys wore kippot, others baseball caps. Still others had no head covering. Some of the girls had traditional below-the-knee denim skirts, while others wore colorful shorts.

"Our approach is that the Torah is really the basis for other ideas that man needs to have for himself now," explained Froman. "And

each child takes this in the direction they want. They don't all have to think the same thing, or interpret it a particular way. It's all a legitimate form of expression.

That's what I think is really special about learning in a mixed class," Froman adds. Everyone has his or her equal place. "Observant children's opinions are not given any higher consideration than nonobservant children's regarding the way they relate to the sources, or to their tradition."

The school has been operating for 10 years. Principal Nava Malkiel calls it "a natural outgrowth" of the settlement of Tekoa, located in Gush Etzion south of Jerusalem and not far from Efrat, where observant and nonobservant Jews live. Residents

of nearby Nokdim, also a mixed community, send their children to the school as well.

According to Malkiel, there are equal numbers of observant and nonobservant pupils, and about 10-15 percent who come from families that are mixed, or consider themselves traditional.

"The guiding principle," said Malkiel, who is on sabbatical this year, "is that the meeting between the two groups be a true meeting. One doesn't always know what will come out of this, but we really try to leave it open, and provide a place for every child, regardless of his or her background."

Formally the school is part of the State Religious system, but, says Malkiel, the school holds a special status in the Education

Ministry, whose officials "visit a great deal."

"The school is simply an expression of the wider experiment which is our entire settlement," says Malkiel. "It's a place where we have all lived together for years. The criteria for judging each other are not what one ordinarily finds," she says.

Unlike other schools experimenting with having observant and nonobservant pupils study different materials under the same roof [see box], Ahdut Yisrael classes all study the same curriculum. Just as an observant child needs to study art, music and geography," comments Malkiel, "a nonobservant child needs to know his people's sources. It doesn't matter whether the family is observant or not - they need to know their heritage and tradition."

While pupils can choose between attending morning prayers or a "morning assembly," that choice is not always so clear-cut. Some observant youngsters opt to pray at home with their parents and go to the assembly. Some nonobservant children choose to go to morning prayers, "and we have some who switch in the middle of the year," Malkiel says.

There is no dress code, she points out. "We all know that there isn't anyone here who 'knows better' than anyone else. That's very important, especially as regards the observant population, who always feel that they have the truth in their pocket."

Malkiel and her staff like the innovations a mixed school allows them to introduce. "I don't find anything particularly difficult about this approach - just the opposite; it provides us with challenges, and that's a good thing. I think the greatest challenge is to find the way to bring the world of the Jewish sources to children."

"It's a world that sometimes seems old-fashioned, archaic, and not relevant. It's hard to get this through to elementary school pupils in general, even observant ones. But it's even harder to get it across to children for whom this is not their natural background."

"This challenge also helps us teach the observant children better. We have to ask ourselves more questions about how to present material."

Living in a rural setting contributes to this approach, Malkiel says. "We learn a great deal of our Bible via the environment, nature and agriculture. If, for example, we're studying about the harvesting of wheat in the Bible, we grow our own wheat. We go through the entire process and make bread in the end."

"So you don't have a situation where you have a class in Bible and another in nature. Rather, the two are merged. This is a good way to teach children, because their world is still very unified."

In the well-stocked school library, some of the pupils talked about the advantages of studying with classmates from different backgrounds.

"It raises my level of social awareness," commented Hananel Unger, 11, a sixth grader. "It makes me able to get along with many different kinds of people."

"It helps me understand where they're coming from, to get into their head," explained Nachman Malkiel, also 11 and the principal's son. "They learn about my religious observance, and my way of life, just like I learn from them."

ers her." Observant child said that if she went to a strictly religious school it would be very boring. She said it was more interesting to be with children who dress, think and eat differently. Observant children are curious about this, and it interests them.

"A secular child said he didn't understand why observant and secular children need to be separated."



Karen Ben-Zur

"At the school I went to with all observant kids, none of them played soccer or basketball. But all secular kids play basketball."

—Ya'acov, a religious fifth grader



Sharon Ben-Zur

"At my last school there weren't too many observant kids, but now I can learn things from them I didn't know before. And I'm interested."

—Bella, a secular sixth grader

Coexisting in the classroom

The school at Tekoa is not the only educational institution where observant and secular youngsters are getting to know each other in classroom settings. Today there are close to a dozen such schools, following three main models of coexistence.

"The difference between the various get-togethers is one of intensity," explained Amira Perlov of Drachim, an organization established in 1996 to fight "a worrisome trend toward division in the Israeli public."

"There are some forums where the pupils meet informally and infrequently, perhaps once a week, others where they study together all the time. What they have in common is joint study; it's not just a social get-together to discuss beliefs."

An example of the least intensive model is an experiment conducted last year by pupils from three high schools, the Gonen High School affiliated with the Labor Movement, the Pelech High School and the Mekor Haim Yeshiva.

The three schools held separate sessions for boys and girls in a *beit midrash* format, studying texts from literature and political science. They also examined classical Jewish texts, focusing on Rabbi Yohanan Ben-Zakai and Rabbi Akiva as examples of different responses in times of crisis. Democracy and current affairs were also discussed.

"The pupils, says Perlov, found they were wrong to think that the observant are only interested in presenting religious sources.

"One of the teachers from the yeshiva had a background in political science, and wanted to include political texts; one from Gonen liked literature, and wanted to include midrash. So even for the teachers the meetings broke stereotypes. The pupils saw that people can still study together despite disagreements," she commented.

Perlov said the capital's Himmelfarb and Boyar high schools have also held similar encounters, initiated following Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

The second model is a joint campus shared by separate schools for observant and secular pupils. The Kochav Yair elementary schools, for example, share a schoolyard and a library and participate in joint activities, particularly around the holidays. Some subjects, like English, math or geography, are studied together for technical reasons or simply convenience.

The third - and most intensive - program involves the two groups actually studying all subjects in the same building: Tekoa, Jerusalem's Keshet school and Kfar Adumim, the oldest such model, founded 18 years ago.

At Kfar Adumim, as at Tekoa, there are alternative activities to prayer, and pupils can opt for more intensive history, art or geography classes instead of Mishna, Gemara or Jewish law.

"We don't ask families to classify themselves," explains Perlov, stressing that the

important thing is that the children live and grow up together.

She likes to tell the story of some eighth-grade boys from Kfar Adumim who decided they didn't want to pray with the younger children anymore. When school officials refused to allow them to pray on their own, they took action.

"They just decided that they weren't going to pray with the rest of the school," Perlov relates, "but they didn't have enough boys for a *minyán*. So their secular classmates agreed to join them - even though it meant waking up earlier than usual. To fight the establishment, it was worth it. After all, the synagogue wasn't foreign to them; it was part of their lives too."

In the end, however, Perlov notes, "most of the children turn out much like they are at home." Education Ministry officials, particularly in the newly-founded Administration for Values Education, are encouraging Drachim to interest other schools, teachers and parents in their ideas. Interested parents or teachers can contact Perlov and Drachim at (02) 535-4425.

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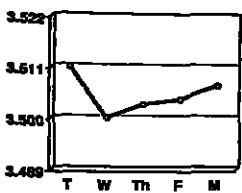
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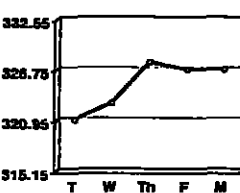
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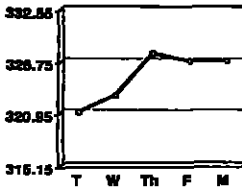


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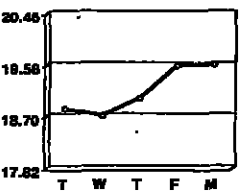
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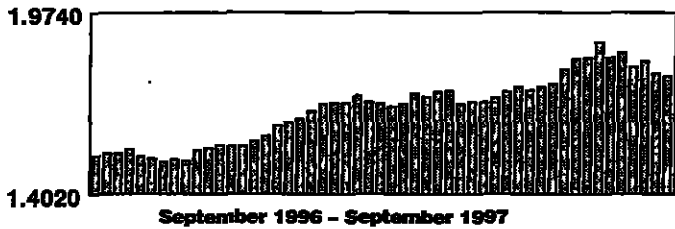


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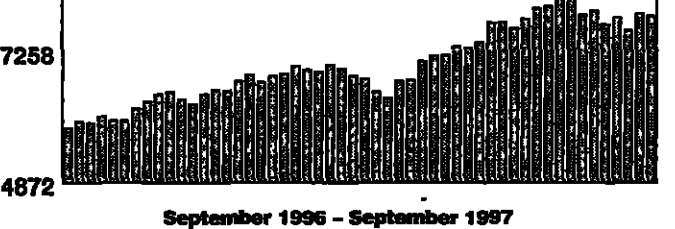
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Yehezkel: Reducing int'l reps. will hurt growth

A Treasury plan to reduce activities of government representatives abroad would cause a slowdown in economic growth, Labor MK Avi Yehezkel, and chairman of the Economics Committee, said yesterday.

He responded to a proposal to streamline the budget for attaches, by requiring the envoys to work for more than one ministry, or to replace some with local hires.

Supporting an attaché abroad costs about \$200,000 per year, four-times more than hiring local people, officials said. Local hires wouldn't be entitled to perks such as family support stipends, rent, and children's school tuition which are paid to the attaches.

Opponents of the proposal cautioned that Israeli attaches could generate more business for the country by specializing in one area, such as trade, tourism or agriculture. *Jennifer Friedlin*

Knesset Finance Committee approves Hapoalim sale

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday unanimously approved the government's sale of a 43 percent stake in Bank Hapoalim to a consortium headed by millionaire Ted Arison.

The official signing ceremony was to take place this morning.

The vote came after one week of negotiations regarding workers' provisions. Yesterday, MI Holdings, the government authority responsible for selling banks, announced it would side with the Histadrut and require the Arison group to continue providing workers' benefits by the current collective agreement.

"We stood for the rights of the workers and if we had not pushed

for this agreement, they would have been hurt," said Zion Shama, head of the Histadrut's bank division.

Arison won the bid to become the controlling shareholder in Israel's largest bank several weeks ago, but final approval was delayed over disagreements regarding workers' contracts.

The Arison group said in a statement that it was very happy with the decision and would start looking for a new director general.

Knesset Finance Committee Chairman Avraham Ravitz of United Torah Judaism congratulated the parties, saying the agreement represented a positive step in support of workers' rights.

"As a member of the [KFC], I am proud to be a part of the decision,

which defends the workers," Ravitz said.

MK Arnon Rubinstein of Meretz told the committee that it must make sure that the money raised from the sale does not get lost in a labyrinth before reaching government coffers.

The Arison group, which paid NIS 4.8b. for the 43% stake, has said it also planned to exercise its option to acquire an additional 21.5% of the bank within 18 months.

Arison will pay the government the same price it did for the original stake.

The second acquisition would put Arison in control of about 64.5% of the bank. The government would continue to hold 5% while workers

would hold 7%. The remaining shares are traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The government has so far raised NIS 7.2 billion in 1997 through the sale of state assets, exceeding its goal for the year of NIS 4.3b.

Accountant General Shai Talmon said he expects the government to raise a total of NIS 9b., once options have been exercised for Bank Leumi and Discount Bank.

The government said it would begin discussing the sale of Lod and Ramleh's District Development Company next week. It has also decided to sell its 82% stake in the Afridar real estate company and its 75% holding in the wild grass clearing company Wild Grass Extirmination.

CBS: Zero growth expected in 1997

By DAVID HARRIS

Government figures published yesterday indicate that the economy is at a standstill.

The Central Bureau of Statistics forecasted 1997 growth in gross domestic product at 2 to 2.5 percent, while population increase has been 2.3% annually.

This means that in real terms, there is at best a freeze in economic growth and also in per capita gross national product.

Private consumption is also frozen or in decline, government statistician, Joseph Yahav, said.

"We've passed from economic growth to stagnation," Yahav said in presenting the 1997 Statistical Abstract.

The news, he said is "not good, it's even bad."

But Yahav stopped short of saying there was a recession, calling the term "a little strong."

He predicted that 1997 would be a turning point. Growth potential is still at 5 to 6%, he said.

"The best way to see it [1997] is like a plane coming into land and then taking off again."

But political or security factors such as terror attacks could inhibit growth since they tend to inhibit such activities as construction and tourism, he said.

Still, Yahav wouldn't draw any link between increased violence and a decline in investments in 1997. He said the slowdown must also be viewed in the context that investments were quite high in 1995 and 1996.

If the current trend in foreign trade continues, 1997 could be the first year this decade in which the trade deficit shrinks, according to the Bureau's figures.

The current deficit estimate by year's end is \$10 billion, compared to \$11b. in 1996. Through the 1990s, the deficit has increased at an annual 15%.

The principal reason for the improved-trade figures is that trade and service exports jumped 10% in the first half of 1997, reaching \$16.2b. Imports, on the other hand, remained stable.



Upping the ante

Striking oil workers in Kuwait play cards at their union headquarters yesterday. Kuwait National Petroleum Company workers have threatened to gradually widen their strike at the Mina al-Ahmad crude and product exports terminal to include other operations. *(Reuters)*

Neeman: No tax on city company bonds

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman said yesterday he favored granting municipal companies the same tax exemptions for bond issues as Treasury issues.

Neeman, who spoke in Jerusalem at a seminar on municipal bonds, said city companies should be allowed to issue bonds tax-free as long as they have no links with municipal authorities.

"There must be a Chinese wall separating the corporations from the municipalities. This must be a separate entity which is economically and juridically independent of the authority," he said.

He added that to achieve such separation he was willing to give tax exemptions to all transactions of assets to these companies.

The Union of Local Authorities in Israel said it has started attributing national significance to judicial procedures for issuing municipal bonds designated for special projects.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert said the first initiative was born three years ago when the capital sought to issue bonds abroad. He added that local authorities could use debt issue to raise capital for special projects. Olmert thought the current political situation should not hurt such issues.

Local authorities are interested in issuing bonds as a cheap means of raising capital, and to lower their reliance on the central government.

The current Cities and Municipalities Law and Companies Law prevent such debt issues.

Experts said it would take local authorities 6-10 years to make changes needed to issue debt, such as adjusting accounting procedures to Securities Authority requirements.

UK's Brown to hold down public spending

By DAVID HEALY

UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown pledged a tough regime of holding down public spending, including curbs on state workers' wages, to keep the economy "on track" for stable growth next year.

In a key policy speech to the annual conference of the ruling Labor Party, Brown said this is the only route to implementing the government's aims to boost spending on education and health.

"I'm now more optimistic that the economy can be back on track next year," he told delegates at the southern England resort of Brighton. He said the "boom to bust" years of the previous Conservative government, which doubled the national debt in its last five years, are over.

"You can't build the new Jerusalem on a mountain of debt. That's why with our deficit reduction plan for public borrowing, with our tough reforms at the Bank of England, with the interest rate rises made necessary by Conservative mistakes, Britain has

begun to break from Tory short-termism," he said.

Brown gave the central bank operational independence to set rates to hit a strict inflation target of 3 percent soon after taking office on May 1. It has raised the base rate four times, to the current 7%, as inflation hovers around the 3% mark.

Brown said the government would seek early moves to reduce the lowest rate of income tax from 20% to 10% to encourage people off state benefits and back into work. He pledged to bring "full employment for the 21st century, an employment opportunity for all in every part of Britain," though he did not spell out his definition of full employment. Most economists define it as unemployment levels of 3% or less; Brown said it was "jobs for all who want them."

Brown, who's described himself as an "iron chancellor," said the new Labor government had learned from past mistakes of its predecessors. "Just as you can't spend your way out of recession, you can't, in a global economy, simply spend your way through a recovery

either," he said.

With growth rates around an annual 3.5% and unemployment of under 7%, well below the European union average, Britain currently has one of the strongest economies in Europe.

"There will be no risks with inflation, no irresponsible fine tuning, no massaging of the figures, no short-term dashes for growth, but a long-term strategy for our public finances, the encouragement of investment for the future and, in place of boom and bust, stability," Brown told the conference.

He said he wouldn't make the same errors as previous Labor administrations "which failed to take the tough long-term decisions for change early on."

"It's only by being prudent and disciplined now, building a platform for long-term stability, that we will be able to deliver the people's priorities for health and education in the years ahead."

"That's why in our spending reviews all our decisions, including pay settlements right across the board, will be guided by firmness and fairness," he said.

This would mean restraint in setting pay for 5 million state workers, from teachers and nurses to government officials and park keepers, the government has said.

"If Britain's economy is to succeed it can do so only by putting employment and education opportunities, once in the hands of the few, into the hands of the many," Brown said, adding this included creating economic opportunities for all, and "fair" tax changes which encouraged jobs.

"That's why we're examining a new tax credit for the low paid to be paid direct through the wage packet, the reform of national insurance to encourage work and implementing our 10% tax rate all underpinned by the national minimum wage."

The government has established a commission to fix the rate of the national minimum wage, which has yet to report.

Brown said on social issues, the Labor government would divert money from private health care and schooling into the state-run National Health Service and public education. *Bloomberg*

Shilov gets patent for HIV detection method

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Shilov Medical Technologies of Rehovot yesterday announced it received a US patent for its method of detecting HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Unlike most testing methods which cannot detect the virus in blood that has been recently infected, Shilov's technology is able to identify antibodies that indicate the virus is present, even early on, the company said. "These products are designed to improve the early detection of life-threatening infectious diseases," said Tamar Jehuda-Cohen, chairwoman of Shilov.

More effective testing could curb the spread of AIDS by reducing the amount of contaminated blood entering the blood supply, she said.

Shilov's product, the HIV ShilovTube, is being studied as a blood pre-treatment device for the earlier and more accurate detection of HIV antibodies. The firm expects to begin US clinical trials of the technology this year. Shilov has received a license for use in Mexico and it is under review in South Africa, Kenya and here.

The company is also developing pre-treatment products for the early detection of the viruses that cause Hepatitis C and leukemia.

Insurers to provide 80% of guarantees to home buyers

Globe News Service

Insurance companies will be permitted to extend 80% of the guarantees to home buyers under the Sale Law.

This was agreed at a meeting held last week between Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles, Insurance Commissioner Doron Shorer, and Shikun U'bini general manager Uzi Verdizer, representing the Building Contractors Association.

The new method, being launched at Abeles's initiative, will lead to a revolutionary change in construction finance policy, and will stimulate activity in the sector.

The agreement lays down that the insurance companies will give guarantees up to a ceiling of 80% of the number of housing units in any project.

The banks will give guarantees for the remaining units. The balance of bank guarantees to the industry today is some NIS 25 billion.

Industry sources estimate that, within a short time, 40% of the guarantees, NIS 10 billion, will be transferred from the banks to the insurance companies. This will enable the banks to increase financial coverage for contractors to finance projects by billions of shekels.

The new order should considerably alleviate the credit shortage in the real estate industry, improving contractors' liquidity, and leading to a substantial increase in building starts next year.

Total bank credit to the construction industry is now NIS 84 billion.

Transferring NIS 10 billion in guarantees from the banks to the insurance companies is likely to enable the banks to increase credit to the industry by a similar amount.

This will enable several banks, which have almost stopped providing financial coverage recently, because they had reached their limits, to renew the grant of credit.

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BITS & BYTES

ACS raises \$6 million in Wall St. IPO: ACS Electronics Ltd., Migdal Ha'emek-based maker of fully digital motion control products, raised \$6m. in an initial public offering on the Nasdaq Small Cap Market. ACS sold 1.2 million shares at \$5 per share. The sale was led by Hampshire Securities.

Cimatron wins Diadora contract: Cimatron, a Givat Shmuel-based maker of mechanical engineering tools, has received a contract to supply Italian athletic shoes and clothing manufacturer Diadora with solutions for the design of shoe soles. SOLFAST, a customized user program, allows the user to digitize one shoe sole and manipulate the model to produce the entire range of shoe sizes.

MINT Technologies receives \$1m. order: MINT Technologies, a subsidiary of Herzliya-based OSHAP Technologies, received a

\$1m. order from an undisclosed telecom provider for its financial software solution. The MINT products are designed to provide payment-clearing services. This is MINT's largest offer ever.

Orbotech receives \$5.8m. order from Hutchinson Technology: Orbotech Ltd. of Yavne recently announced that it received orders totaling \$5.8m. from Hutchinson Technology, Ltd., a Minnesota-based supplier of suspension assemblies for hard-disk drives. Orbotech designs and develops automated optical inspection systems for the manufacture of printed circuit boards.

Spegas Industries Ltd. raises \$4.2m. in private placement: Spegas Industries, a maker of non-invasive gas analyzers, raised \$4.2m. from investors including Advent, Gemini Israel II and Kardan Technology

WITH JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Ventures. Established in 1987, Spegas has developed a proprietary technology for analyzing the level of carbon dioxide in exhaled breath, which can be used for the real-time diagnosis and monitoring of ulcers. Spegas has strategic partnerships with companies such as Nellcor Puritan Bennett, Hewlett Packard and Nihon Kodin. The financing was carried out by Jerusalem Global.

Tower Semiconductor announces multi-year agreement: Tower Semiconductor of Migdal Ha'emek has announced that it received a multi-year contract to supply memory chips to Chip Express Corporation of Silicon Valley, California. According to the terms of the agreement, Tower will supply Chip Express with wafers fabricated using Tower's advanced manufacturing processes. Chip Express will use the generic wafers for prototyping and manufacturing.

Wave of the future

Israeli researchers are completing a one-of-a-kind software package designed to protect harbors worldwide from unexpected choppy waters

By NICKY BLACKBURN

Where do you go to seek safety in a storm when the answer, of course, is a harbor. But what happens when the harbor cannot protect your ship? Every year millions of dollars worth of damage is done to moored ships when waves penetrate the harbor's defenses through the entrance.

In a well-designed harbor this may happen only a few days every year, but even so the surprise element means that unloading delays, and damage to ships and quays, is hard to prevent and losses can range from minor to phenomenal.

Now an Israeli research team believes it may have found a way to prevent some of these losses with a unique development that can forecast wind and wave activity in a harbor or port up to 48 hours in advance.

The advanced hydroinformatics system, in essence a fully-automated software package, was developed by the Coastal and Marine Engineering Research Institute (Cameri), at the Technion University in Haifa. A pilot scheme is now being installed in Haifa Port, and Prof. Michael Stiassnie, director of Cameri, believes that next year the system will be sold to at least two ports overseas.

The development, called Sea 21, is designed mostly for owners of marine installations, such as harbors, marinas, ports, offshore terminals and long piers - most of which are located in shallow water of less than 15 meters or so.

Up till now, it has been impossible to predict when destructive waves will enter these installations, says Stiassnie. "In advanced countries, weather bureaus do give forecasts for sea conditions in the days ahead as part of their daily routine, but the forecasts are almost always for deep water [depths of more than 50 meters], rather than for coastal waters, and waves go through a substantial change when they move from deep to shallow water."

Not all waves are a problem, however. "Usually the waves we can see are the ones generated by the wind. They have a typical length of about 100 meters. Sometimes though, particularly during storms, these wind waves generate additional unseen waves, called long waves, as they reach shallow water. These have a typical length of a kilometer or more. The height is significantly smaller than that of the original wind waves, but their ability to penetrate the harbor through the sea opening is significantly larger."

"When they do this, they set the whole harbor in motion, like tipping water in a cup. This sets all the ships moving. If this movement is small, it's not a problem, but if it increases over a certain threshold it causes difficulties."

If a ship or vessel is moving more than one meter back and forth, for instance, it can snap mooring lines, damage itself or neighboring ships, wreck the quay and even endanger human life. Bills can run into millions of dollars. In addition, the long waves can halt all loading and unloading. If a ship is delayed even for just a day, this can cost shipping compa-

nies tens of thousands of dollars. While some harbors are more affected by this problem than others, nearly every harbor in the world suffers from it at one time or another. "It's unavoidable," says Stiassnie.

Often specific areas of the port are more at risk than others. In Haifa Port's eastern quay, for example, part of the harbor is affected by these waves for a few days every year. "It always comes as a surprise, though," says Stiassnie. "And we don't want surprises."

For open installations such as

Cameri, which is jointly owned by the Technion and the Israel Ports and Railways Authority, began work on this project about two years ago.

The idea stemmed from research being carried out for the Ports Authority in connection with the planned expansion of both the Ashdod and Haifa ports. Cameri's job is to help the authority find ways to optimize the future shape of the two harbors so they can be operated all year round.

"We were looking for an idea that could turn our numerical work into a commercial advantage,"

itself, so earlier this year he signed a marketing contract with British company HR Wallingford, the world's leading laboratory in coastal engineering.

Wallingford is to begin marketing the system toward the end of this year in Europe, South East Asia, India and South America. Cameri is now looking for a good connection in the US market.

Interest in Sea 21 is high. Though Stiassnie has in the past been reluctant to publish too many details about the project because it's still in the final stages of development, and marketing has-



A pilot of Sea 21, which analyzes wave propagation, local winds and the shape of the bay, is now being installed here in Haifa Port. (David Rubinger)

open piers, buoy terminals, or pier terminals, the risk is greater and the damages more severe.

While Sea 21 can't cure this problem, Stiassnie believes it will help marine installation operators make informed decisions. "It allows you to be ready at the right moment and to plan your business in a more efficient and safe way. Loading and unloading schedules can be rearranged or ships moved. In turn, this will increase revenues and reduce losses."

Sea 21 works through a complicated chain of advanced computational models interconnected through a user-friendly graphical interface. It receives information from local meteorological offices and weather bureaus about wind and wave conditions in deep water. This is then analyzed by the computer, which takes into account wave propagation, local winds, the shape of the bay and the harbor, etc. to give users specific information on wave fields, winds, currents, ship motion and mooring conditions in the port or marina. The system automatically notifies the operator about changes in weather conditions.

Sea 21 is not an off-the-shelf product. "It's not like a computer game that you can buy from a shop," says Stiassnie. "You need all the details of the port, the condition of the harbor, the sea, the weather etc. A certain amount of field work has to be done for the clients before we can set up the system."

says Stiassnie. "The idea had been incubating for a long time. We recognized the need but had to convince ourselves that what we were suggesting was a reliable approach, and increase our confidence that we could get it right - as right as forecasting can be that is; there's always an element of surprise in it."

This, they had to convince their owners to invest in the development. It wasn't a difficult task, and now the Office of the Chief Scientist has also provided a small amount of funding.

Full-scale development of the project began 18 months ago. Cameri, which employs 20 people, used two methods to come up with its solution. A physical simulation of the port in question, currently Haifa, and computer simulation. "This gives us an advantage as we examine the same problem in two unrelated ways. It gives us a better understanding and helps us improve our methods."

Though this is the first time Cameri - which derives most of its profits from surveys, consultancy work, modeling and design - has developed its own product, Stiassnie has kept the commercial world in mind from the start. "We can create an excellent product, but if we don't develop the proper commercial connections, then it won't be any good."

He realized early on that Cameri is too small to market Sea 21 by

n't yet begun, he has already been approached by interested parties from Chile (which recently suffered a devastating storm that wrecked dozens of ships moored in harbors) to Japan.

Cameri, which works out of small prefabricated offices behind the Department of Civil Engineering at the Technion, will be able to take orders from January '98. By that time, Stiassnie believes the system at Haifa port will be working smoothly giving potential clients a chance to see the product in action. We hope that during 1998 we will have at least two overseas clients," says Stiassnie. "Then others will follow."

At present, this being the only such system in the world, Cameri has no competition. "We have a leading edge, other laboratories are behind us, but I don't know how long we'll be able to make a success of it. A system like this has not existed before and people don't know that they need it yet. They just know they have a problem."

For Cameri, the Sea 21 is an ideal opportunity for it to break into the international market with a commercial product. The institute has been running since 1976, but most of the work carried out there is for the Israeli market. "This marks a real change in attitude," says Stiassnie. "Now we just have to wait and see if it's going to be successful or not."

MOTURING

In the 'hot' Seat

The Ibiza GTI has been designed and marketed for the young and the restless



By JOEL GORDIN

When the Spanish company Seat (pronounced see-at) was taken over by Germany's Volkswagen at the end of the last decade, it gained the unfortunate reputation of "a poor person's VW." However, only a few years later, VW bought the Czech company Skoda and the managers from Wolfsburg decided Skoda would be the "popular-priced" car, while Seat would become "the car for the young and restless" or, if you prefer, "the young person's VW."

The image was given a boost last year when a Seat Ibiza won the class 2 (known as the F2) world rally championships. In Israel, too, local VW and Seat dealers, Champion Motors, are working on Seat's image. They have separated the Seat and VW interests within the company. The two marques now have different showrooms, managements, advertising companies and spokespeople.

To make a pitch to "the young and restless" the Seat sales planners have imported the "hot rod" Seat Ibiza GTI 2.0-liter - a spin-off of the kit-car that won the world rally championship. If nothing else, the Ibiza GTI comes in stunning colors. The model I tested was a light lime green; it looked like a giant popsicle and attracted admiring glances at every traffic light.

This snubby three-door exudes power. It's not pretty or attractive, but it is beautiful in the way that a muscular, powerful athlete can be beautiful. It is rounded off at the sides by gleaming classic-car style hubcaps, at the rear by a large

spoiler and in the front by two impressive-looking fog lamps. The dashboard fittings are reminiscent of the Volkswagen Polo, but this influence is overshadowed by the sporting touches - notably the black-on-white speedometer, rev. counter, temperature and gasoline gauges. There are also two smaller black-on-white gauges below the air-conditioner. They're great for show, but they are positioned in a way that the driver must stop the car to read them.

The Ibiza GTI is only available in one trim rating. There are power windows, electrically controlled rear mirrors, an adjustable steering wheel, a leather-embossed shift stick and a sun roof. The seats are comfortable and supportive, but seating space is limited.

There is also a dearth of storage space and the trunk is designed for those who travel light, which is reasonable since this is, after all, an automobile for young people - without panaches or baggage. If, however, the youngsters happen to have long legs, they'll just have to bend them a little.

The gear shift, like that on the VW Polo GTI, is operated by cables, and also requires a bit of work. One needs to have a strong hand, yet you must be gentle at the same time.

The four-cylinder engine, also from Volkswagen, is a ripper. The initials GTI generally refer to a hot car with a souped-up engine and sporting characteristics, but in recent years the initials have become over-used and many so-called GTIs or GTIs are disappointingly normal cars with a

fancy sticker. The Ibiza 2.0-liter, however, lives up to its name. Its initial acceleration capabilities are astounding. It can zip from 0-100 km/h. in about eight seconds.

For those who like to drive in the fast lane and who can master the art of moving the cable gears, this car is a dream. The just-right suspension adds to the pleasure. The road-holding is enhanced by the wide, 16-inch tires and active safety is further boosted by accurate steering and spot-on disc brakes at the front and rear.

Passive safety features include two front airbags. The average fuel consumption is a reasonable 11.9 km/l.

One of the most pleasant surprises is the price. At NIS 95,250, the Ibiza GTI has no competition in its class. There is no shortage of hot coupes in Israel, but the Peugeot GTI 106, the Citroen Saxo VTS, the Renault Megané Coupe, the Opel Astra Coupe, the Opel Tigra, the Alpha TI 45 and the Honda Civic VTI are all more expensive. To be fair, the others - with the exception of Peugeot and Citroen - are all larger, but comfort is not usually a factor for the "hot-car" set.

SEAT IBIZA 16V GTI
ENGINE: 1,984cc
HORSEPOWER: 150 at 6,000
TORQUE: 18 at 4,600 r.p.m.
GEARS: manual
ACCELERATION: from 0-100 km/h. in 8.3 sec.
MAXIMUM SPEED: 216 km/h.
GASOLINE CONSUMPTION: 11.7 km/l.
PRICE: NIS 95,250

Caddies for the Continent

Americans have always held the upmarket European automobiles in esteem.

To own a Mercedes, BMW or a Jaguar - not to mention a Rolls Royce, Porsche or a Ferrari - is status in the US. Europeans, on the other hand, have not always shown the same respect for the top US-made luxury automobiles, which are regarded as boat-like gas guzzlers.

Ford, at least, owns Jaguar and Aston Martin. General Motors

however, has no plush limousine to sell to Europeans - the company's most elite car on the continent has always been the Opel Omega.

But the times they are a-changing. GM last week chose the prestigious Frankfurt Motor Show to unveil the new Cadillac Seville. It is the first time GM has launched a Cadillac at a venue outside of the US. The new Seville has been specifically designed as a "world car." To make it more palatable to the

taste of Europeans (and Japanese), its "land-yacht" look is gone and it's smaller and rounder than its predecessor. In Europe it will compete against the Jaguar CXJ8, the Mercedes E and S classes, and in Japan against the Toyota Lexus. If all goes well, Cadillacs will become a common sight on European roads and smaller, less expensive Caddies will be designed to compete with the BMW 3 series and the Audi A6. -J.G.

Sotheby's to sell Nussbaums

AT THE AUCTIONS



Fossil skull of a near-complete Tyrannosaurus rex to be sold by Sotheby's New York Oct. 3.

Two remarkable oils by Felix Nussbaum (1904-44), the brilliant young German Jewish painter murdered at Auschwitz, are being offered at Sotheby's Tel Aviv sale on October 27. One is of a wharfside scene made at Ostende in 1936. Painted on panel, this low-palette oil with figures standing next to a ship is a striking composition and rather typical of the gloomy genre painting of the period. Most of the ship is hidden below eye level, but its smoky raked funnel dominates the work and is echoed by a stark foreground (\$70,000-\$100,000). The second Nussbaum oil is a charming rural landscape painted at San Remo in 1934 (\$20,000-\$30,000).

Another notable work on offer is a very early Reuben Rubin (1893-1974) oil from 1924 of an Arab village and mosque, somewhat reminiscent of Sidna Ali near Herzliya (\$64,000-\$60,000). Utamaro's

(\$100,000-\$150,000). More about this sale in a coming column.

DANIELLA LUXEMBOURG, a founding co-director of Sotheby's Tel Aviv and more recently deputy chair of Sotheby's Switzerland, is leaving Sotheby's to set up a joint venture with Simon de Pury, who has resigned as chairman of Sotheby's Europe. According to de Pury, a select group of collectors have asked the pair to create an art fund to buy and sell works as a private company. Both are expert at drumming up sales and will doubtless tread on Sotheby's toes. Nevertheless, Diana D. Brooks, president and CEO of Sotheby's Holdings, has gallantly wished them well. De Pury is being replaced as chairman of Sotheby's Europe by Henry Wyndham.

SUPERB JAPANESE prints, the final part of the collection of Henri Vever (1854-1943), will be sold by Sotheby's London on October 30. The famous Kabuki female impersonator, the actor Sanogawa Ichimatsu III, appears as the character Onaya in a print by Teshusa Sharaku (active for only 10 months in 1794-95). This is the proud possessor of a restrike made around 1910, but it isn't worth much on the market. This rare print by a brilliant artist about whom little is known, has an estimate of \$320,000-\$400,000. A good print of Hokusai's Great Wave off Kanagawa is also on offer (\$160,000-\$240,000), as is Harunobu's Girl on a Verandah (\$64,000-\$60,000). Utamaro's

topless Awabi fisher-girls have a top estimate of over \$280,000. This sale also features 22 erotic prints by these and other artists. Prices of good Japanese ukiyo-e prints continue to spiral upward.

THE FOSSIL skeleton of the

biggest and best Tyrannosaurus rex ever discovered will be auctioned by Sotheby's New York October 3. The dinosaur is 90 percent complete and her 36 surviving teeth still bear marks of wear. The skull is 1.5 meters long. "Sus" is expected to bring over \$1 million.

THE CONFERENCE CIRCUIT

BY GREER FAY CASHMAN

7.10 Women for Women, the interorganizational forum that promotes the election of more women as heads and members of municipal councils, will meet at WIZO House, 1 Mapu Street, Jerusalem, at 12 noon.

10.10 A record number of Israelis is expected to participate in the week-long Anuga Food Fair, the world's largest event of its kind, to be held in Cologne. More than 800 Israelis, most of them buyers, have already registered for the fair, which will be attended by close to 190,000 importers and distributors from 152 countries. In addition to tried and true favorites, some 56,000 new food products will be unveiled at the fair. The large Israeli contingent is attributed to the mushrooming of shopping malls around the country, featuring a host of food outlets.

14.10 An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of Magav

Technology has been called at the company offices, 3 Kitzels-n Street, Ashdod, to approve the capital investment of approximately NIS 9.5 million in Ganei Or Holdings and Investments, a private company owned and controlled by Avi Turjeman and Ze'ev Recanat.

15.10 An Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of Falto has been called at the company offices on Kibbutz Ramat Yonatan to decide on the acquisition of the assets of its wholly owned subsidiary Palram, and to vote on changing the company's name to Palram Falto Ltd.

22.10 The Rehabilitation Care and Equipment Fair for Disabled People will be held at the Düsseldorf Messe. The four-day fair attracts members of the medical community as well as distributors of medical and rehabilitation equipment.

insurers to provide 10% of guarantee to home buyers

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MISHTANIM LEADING 100 TASE ISSUES

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RETZEF CONTINUOUS TRADING SHARES

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ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

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AMEX

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INTERNATIONAL SHARES

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SPORTS

in brief

Bebeto rejoins Deportivo Coruna

LA CORUNA, Spain (Reuters) - Brazilian striker Bebeto has rejoined Deportivo Coruna, the Spanish club's president Augusto Cesar Lendoiro said yesterday.

Lendoiro told a news conference in La Coruna that Bebeto had signed a two-year contract and he had received a fax from Brazilian club Vitoria confirming the move. No financial details were released.

NZ, Zimbabwe in dramatic 2nd Test draw

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe (AP) - In a match that could have been settled either way in the last over, Zimbabwe and New Zealand dramatically drew their second and last Test on Monday.

At the close, New Zealand were 12 runs short of victory, while Zimbabwe needed two wickets to win.

The two-Test series finished level. The first in Harare was also drawn. Scores: Zimbabwe 461 and 227-8 declared, New Zealand 403 and 275-8.

Rusedski takes on Edberg's ex-coach Pickard

LONDON (Reuters) - Greg Rusedski has split with American coach Brian Teacher and taken on Tony Pickard, the Briton who guided Stefan Edberg during his glory days.

Rusedski's decision to part company with the man who helped him reach No. 10 in the world and this month's US Open final was revealed yesterday. Teacher was employed on an informal contract which was due to end this month and has not been renewed.

Ra'anana bowlers take trips honors

By NORMAN SPIRO

It was Ra'anana's day at the weekend when they won both the men's and women's annual national trips championships.

Jeff Rabkin, skipping for his father Harold and Jeff Milstein was in the form that won him the silver medal in last year's World Championships - his uncanny accuracy just too much for his Haifa opponents.

Rabkin Senior gave good support and veteran Milstein at lead showed glimpses of his earlier years medal winning performances.

But full credit to the Haifa Trio, Israeli International Yair Lieberthal, 23, was brilliant at lead and both Yossi Greenberg and Chaim Sheffer

acquitted themselves with top class bowling. They deserved more than their seven shots in their 25-7 defeat.

Maureen Hirschowitz showed her supremacy amongst Israel's women bowlers. Skipping once again for Mele Swerdlow and Isobel Myers the trio outplayed the Kiryat Ono side of Maya Van Creveld, Miriam Cohen and Esi Yogev to the tune of 23-5.

Good support from Swerdlow and Myers set the pattern with Hirschowitz saving situations when under pressure. For the Ra'anana trio it was a repeat of their wins in 1996 and 1994.

The singles, pairs and fours will be played during Succot week.

Arsenal look to Bergkamp in UEFA Cup tonight

LONDON (Reuters) - English league leaders Arsenal hope high-scoring striker Dennis Bergkamp will be back in full flight in the UEFA Cup today.

They mean that in purely goal-scoring terms, however, since the Dutchman's well-documented fear of flying prevented him from traveling to Greece for the first round first leg against PAOK Salonika. Arsenal lost 1-0.

Jokers have already made much of the fact that Bergkamp, the Non-Flying Dutchman, is no good in the air or on the wing but recent form suggests that the best way for Arsenal's opponents to gain an advantage is to play in Greece.

No other team has so far had the better of the only club still unbeaten in the English Premier League.

PAOK, fresh from their first league win of the season, could be in for a rough night.

Arsenal have no injury worries beyond a slight knock on the ankle for Dutch striker Marc Overmars.

However Arsenal's French coach Arsene Wenger is concerned that the pressures of the Premier League make life difficult for the English clubs in Europe.

"Some other countries have a huge advantage when they play English clubs," Wenger said.

He cited Aston Villa, who played tomorrow and Saturday and must then play Bordeaux, who last played

on Thursday, in their UEFA Cup match today.

Bordeaux beat Marseille 2-0 in the league on Thursday, with Jean-Pierre Papin finding the net. Villa and Bordeaux drew 0-0 in France.

Apart from Arsenal, Liverpool look the best-placed English team to progress after coming away from the first leg in Glasgow with a 2-2 score-line against Celtic.

Celtic's city rivals Rangers entertain French club Strasbourg with a 2-1 first leg deficit.

Leicester could pull off a shock when they host Spanish giants Atletico Madrid for their first European night at Filbert Street in 36 years.

That Cup Winners' Cup second round match on October 25, 1991, was also against Atletico, who went through 3-1 on aggregate. Today could be revenge time.

The unsung Midlands lost 2-1 in Madrid but have since moved up to third in the Premier League. Atletico have doubts about midfielder Jose Camarero.

Sampdoria have the toughest task of the Italian sides when they travel to Athletic Bilbao without injured German striker Juergen Klinsmann.

Bilbao, who have shown indifferent league form, won the first leg in Italy 2-1. Spanish international defender Rafael Alkorta is set to return.

Inter Milan, clear at the top in Italy with a 100 per cent record, should triumph in Switzerland against Neuchatel

Xamax after a 2-0 home win.

Brazilian Ronaldo, who scored twice in Inter's 5-1 defeat of Lecce on Saturday, leads the attack.

Swiss side Grasshoppers play Croatia Zagreb, who started off in the European Cup draw, in Zurich and should proceed after drawing the away leg 4-4.

Lazio are at home in Rome with a healthy 4-0 lead over Portugal's Vitoria Guimaraes.

Portuguese hopes could be further dented by struggling Benfica, the former European Cup winners, who must score in Lisbon against French side Bastia who have not found the net in their last three league games. They trail 1-0.

UEFA Cup holders Schalke travel to Hajduk Split in Croatia with a 2-0 first-leg lead.

The Germans are buoyed by the return of Dutch striker Youri Mulder, who is back from a five-month lay-off after a serious knee injury.

But the Geisenkirchen side will have to make do once again without injured captain Olaf Thon.

Dutch side Ajax Amsterdam are also without their captain, Danny Blind, against Maribor of Slovenia due to a groin injury.

Dane Michael Laudrup is doubtful. Ajax, who are at home, will be looking to continue their high-scoring league form with 36 goals from eight matches so far. They drew 1-1 in the first leg.

Ohana injury jolts Betar hopes in Belgium

By OFI LEWIS

Betar Jerusalem suffered a serious blow to their morale yesterday as they continued preparing for the UEFA Cup match against FC Brugge in Belgium tonight, when it was announced that Eli Ohana would be out of action for much of the remainder of the season.

Ohana, who suffered a torn ligament in Saturday's National League match with Hapoel Petah Tikva, had not figured in coach Dror Kashtan's plans in any case, but the news, which came after Ohana's visit to orthopedic expert Prof. Marc Martens in Antwerp, was received with some anguish in the Betar camp.

Ohana will undergo surgery in about two weeks' time and he told Israel Radio that he will need at least

four months to make a full recovery. Jerusalem came to Belgium with a 2-1 lead achieved in the first leg at Teddy Stadium two weeks ago when Hungarians Istvan Fishont and Stefan Saloi were on target for the hosts.

Tonight's match (kickoff 20:30, live coverage Channel 33) will surely be a different affair as the Belgians, under the guidance of coach Eric Gerets will attempt to overturn the Israelis. Betar will not be pleased to hear that Brugge beat Belgian champions Liere 4-2 in a league match over the weekend.

So confident is Gerets, that he is considering not starting with Morlan Jbari, scorer of the vital away goal in Jerusalem. Jbari who caused lots of problems for the Betar defense may be replaced by fellow striker Sven Vermeir.

Hap. PT face tough match against Rapid Vienna

By DEREK FATTAL

Hapoel Petah Tikva coach Nir Levin was confident yesterday that his team can overcome visitors SK Rapid Vienna in this evening's UEFA Cup first round, return leg clash.

Levin's charges were beaten 1-0 in the Austrian capital a fortnight ago the losing margin kept so slim thanks to a mixture of heroic goalkeeping by Shahi Hess and some abysmal finishing by the Viennese strikers.

Oliver Freund found the back of the net in the 37th minute, and is expected to be in the lineup for tonight's match.

The Austrians were flayed by their domestic press after the first leg but it is unlikely that Hapoel will find their visitors in such generous mood tonight. While the Petah Tikvans have an excellent foundation from which to proceed to the second round and give local soccer a vital boost, they still face the task of making up the current deficit.

Given the fact that the Viennese are the stronger side, it is clear that Hapoel cannot afford the luxury of conceding a single away goal.

The Austrians arrived in Israel late

on Sunday night, having clocked up two league wins and one cup victory since the sides met in the first leg. Coach Ernst Dokupil has repeatedly stressed that his team is the better outfit and should be able to overcome Hapoel's challenge, whilst admitting that his players have made life difficult for themselves by failing to register a more convincing result in the first meeting.

The Austrians were in light cheerful mood in training yesterday and reflected the overall confidence of Dokupil.

Hapoel's chances are not assisted by suspensions which rule four players out of the match including the influential Hungarian midfielder Gabor Maron, who is such an inspiration in launching dangerous moves from deep positions. A further blow to Hapoel's hopes is the question mark that still hangs over the ability of Andrei Kristofic to take part in tonight's match.

On the other hand Levin is able to field his lively bunch of attacking players including Eli Abarbanel, Manor Hassan and Mosi Kakkon. The match kicks off at 18:30 and will be broadcast on Cable Channel 5, Radio Two and Army Radio.

SCOREBOARD

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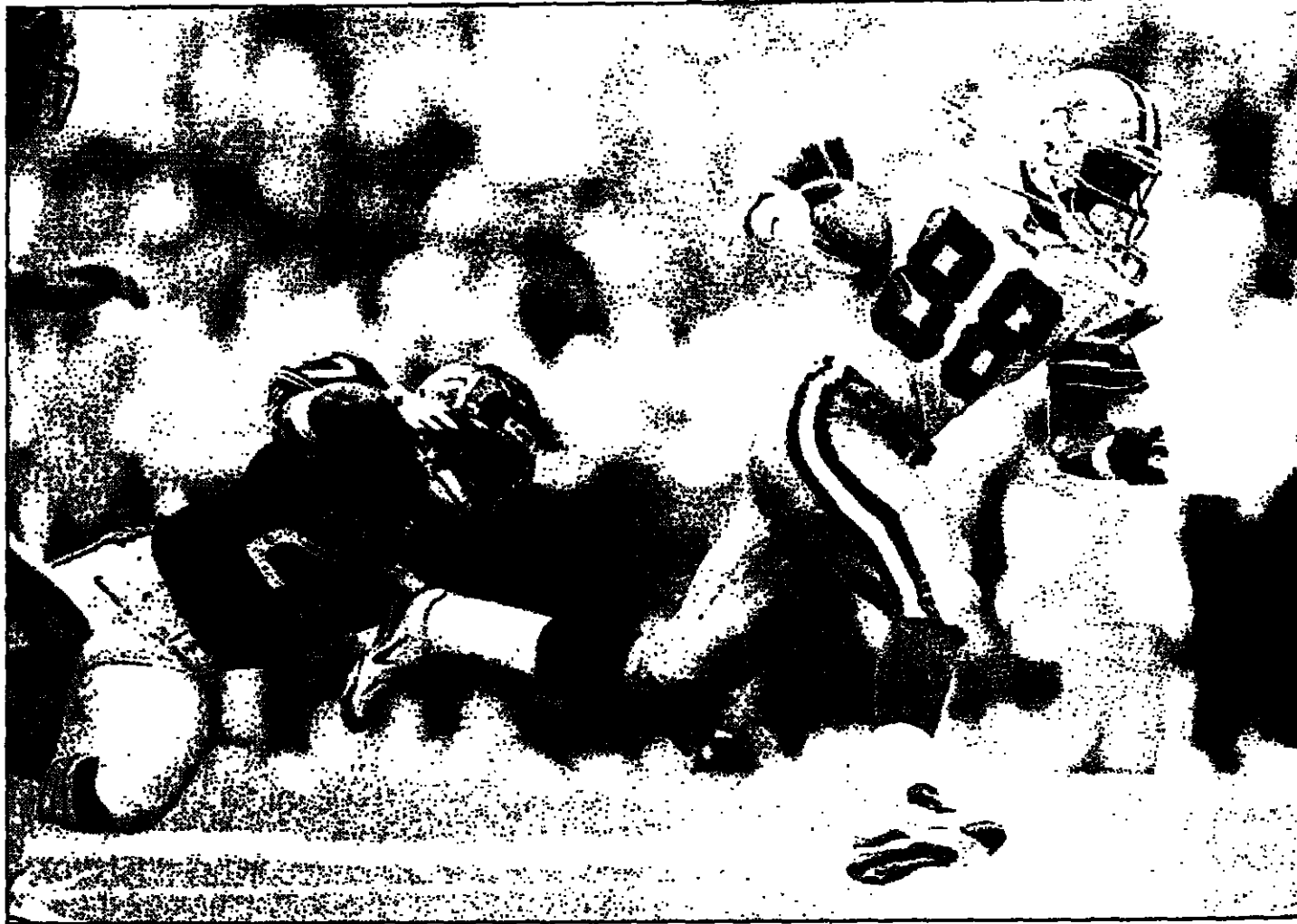
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How to make the big Bucs



OFF AND RUNNING Cowboys' Michael Irvin (r) hauls in a pass and runs for a 26-yard score against the Bears' Walt Harris (l) in second-half action. Dallas beat Chicago 27-3.

NEW YORK (AP)—The Green Bay Packers suddenly find themselves looking up at those perennial losers, the Tampa Bay Bucs.

Way up. While the Packers were losing 26-15 in Detroit on Sunday, the Bucs remained one of the NFL's three unbeaten teams by holding off Arizona, 19-18. That gives Tampa Bay a two-game lead over the Packers in the NFC Central going into next week's meeting with the Packers in Green Bay. Green Bay (3-2) had all kinds of troubles on Sunday with Detroit, which last week lost to previously winless New Orleans. Brett Favre threw three interceptions, one of them returned 45 yards for a touchdown by line-backer Reggie Brown. Barry Sanders ran for 139 yards on 28 carries — 14 in the fourth quarter as the Lions (3-2) controlled the ball to run out the clock. "After a game like New Orleans, it was very important for us to turn it around and have a good game," Detroit quarterback Scott Mitchell said. "Unfortunately, because of the schedule, that meant we were going to have to do that against Green Bay. But we did what we needed to do."

Last night, San Francisco was at Carolina. Idle this weekend were New England, Miami, Indianapolis and Buffalo.

Lions 26, Packers 15 Detroit was as enigmatic as ever against the Packers.

The Lions got a lift when, trailing 6-0, Favre tried to throw from the ground and threw instead toward Brown, who deflected the ball, grabbed it in the air and rumbled toward the end zone.

Mitchell, who had four turnovers in New Orleans, was 17 of 27 for 215 yards and a touchdown and Jason Hanson kicked four field goals. Favre, meanwhile, was just 22 of 43 for 295 yards and was under heavy pressure for most of the game.

"When you've won a Super Bowl, every game is going to be a battle," Green Bay coach Mike Holmgren said.

Bucs 19, Cardinals 18 Trent Dilfer's 31-yard touchdown pass to Karl Williams on a fourth and six with 4:48 to go won it for Tampa after the Cardinals (1-3) had taken the lead on Aeneas Williams' 42-yard interception return and a 2-point conversion late in the third quarter. Then Kevin Butler missed a 47-yard field goal wide right in the waning seconds.

The Bucs (5-0) also got an 8-yard TD reception from Reidel Anthony and scored when Jeff Feagles' punt and returned it 28 yards for a touchdown. The victory was a franchise-record sixth straight for Tampa

Bay, which is 5-0 for the first time since 1979, when the Bucs went 10-6 on their way to the NFC championship game. They are 10-2 since losing eight of their first nine games last season.

Redskins 24, Jaguars 12 Aging cornerbacks Darrell Green and Cris Dishman shut down Mark Brunell, and Gus Frerotte overcame a shaky start to throw for two touchdowns as the host Redskins (3-1) handed the Jaguars (1-1) their first loss.

Green held Jimmy Smith, who had more than 100 yards in each of his three starts, to four catches for 52 yards. Both the 37-year-old Green and the 32-year-old Dishman caused interceptions that set up touchdowns. Terry Allen rushed for 122 yards on 36 carries for Washington.

Jets 31, Bengals 14 Neil O'Donnell threw three touchdown passes in a ball-control offense as New York handed the Bengals their first home loss under Bruce Coslet.

O'Donnell, who as a Pittsburgh Steeler was 8-1 against Cincinnati, got plenty of help as he beat the Bengals (1-3) yet again. Adrian Murrell carried a career-high 40

times for 156 yards against the NFL's second-worst rush defense, and the Jets (3-2) made few mistakes against their former coach (Coslet) and Jeff Blake, their former backup quarterback.

Cowboys 27, Bears 3 Troy Aikman threw two touchdowns and Deion Sanders returned a punt 83 yards for a score as the Cowboys (3-1) finally got their offense going in the second half.

Kevin Smith's interception set up the only first-half TD, before Dallas scored on its first two drives of the second half to put away the Bears (0-5).

Chiefs 20, Seahawks 17 (OT) At Arrowhead Stadium, Pete Stoyanovich kicked a 41-yard field goal with 1:56 left in overtime after Jerome Woods intercepted Warren Moon's pass as the Chiefs (4-1) won their fourth straight.

Seattle (2-3) lost for the first time in three games. Marcus Allen ran for two TDs for Kansas City, raising his NFL career record to 115.

Steelers 37, Oilers 24 Kordell Stewart threw for 244 yards, ran for two touchdowns and

threw for another for the Steelers (2-2). Jason Gillson scored on a fumble return for Pittsburgh, which opened a 37-9 lead over visiting Tennessee (1-3).

Norm Johnson, who had a potential game-winning field goal blocked on Monday night in Jacksonville, was 3 for 4 and the defense limited Eddie George, averaging 121 yards a game, to 29 yards on 12 carries.

Vikings 28, Eagles 19 Robert Smith scored two touchdowns for the first time in his career, including his first TD reception. Smith, the NFL's leading rusher, carried 22 times for 125 yards.

Brad Johnson threw three TD passes for the Vikings (3-2). The Eagles (1-3) fell into a last-place tie with Arizona in the East.

Giants 14, Saints 9 Dave Brown threw touchdown passes of 32 yards to Kevin Alexander and 14 to Chris Calloway and little-used Tyrone Wheatley had three big runs to help kick the clock after the host Giants (2-3) were backed to their own 3 late in the game.

Doug Brien had three field goals for New Orleans (1-4).

Raiders 35, Rams 17 Jeff George had four touchdowns as the Raiders (2-3) came back from a 14-0 deficit in the first appearance by the Rams in Oakland since 1972.

Tony Banks had two TD passes to put the Rams (2-3) up early in the game.

Chargers 21, Ravens 17 Tony Martin caught touchdown passes of 36, 72 and 38 yards from Stan Humphries for the Chargers (2-3). Martin finished with four catches for 155 yards as the Ravens (3-2) lost after two straight wins on the road.

Dwayne Harper's interception with 1:40 to go ended the late Baltimore threat.

Broncos 29, Falcons 21 Elway, who once called playing for Dan Reeves as "hell," threw three TD passes as the Broncos faced Reeves for the first time since he left Denver six years ago.

The Broncos (5-0) built a 23-lead at the Georgia Dome, the hung on to beat the winless Falcons (0-5). It was also redemption for Denver coach Mike Shanahan, fired by Reeves as the team's offensive coordinator in 1991.

ana injury jolts hopes in Belgium

PT face tough match
inst Rapid Vienna

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Needed: A killer instinct for Maccabi Tel Aviv

By BRIAN FREEMAN

If there is one intangible that critics have panned Maccabi Tel Aviv for in recent years, it is the lack of a killer instinct.

Sure, they say, Maccabi will play a good 25-30 minutes of basketball, but the team is unable to maintain the intensity needed to rank among the European elite.

Maccabi gave a fresh reminder of this tendency last week against Real Madrid, when it allowed the Spaniards to close a 22-point gap to only two in the game's final nine minutes.

Maccabi held on to win last week to go 2-0 in the EuroLeague, but many other collapses in recent years have not turned out so fortunately.

If killer instinct means trampling over a team while it is down, then tonight's game in Moscow against CSKA provides the perfect opportunity.

It's not that the Russians are a bad team — they defeated Real Madrid in Moscow and last week lost 86-74 to Olympiakos in Athens — but the club faces the real possibility it will cease to exist if funding is not found immediately to keep the club afloat.

The situation is reportedly so bad that there is a chance tonight will be CSKA's last EuroLeague game.

It would be a shame if that happened. CSKA is one of Europe's most prestigious clubs and is forever linked with Maccabi for Tel Aviv's historic "we are on the map" upset victory over the Russian champs in 1977.

And to its credit the team managed to rebound from the lean years during the breakup of the Soviet Union to reemerge as a strong European contender.

This is CSKA's fourth consecutive appearance in the final pool, including a trip to the Final Four in 1996, a season in which CSKA defeated Maccabi in Moscow in a matchup that determined which team would advance to the quarterfinals.

In fact, since defeating CSKA in 1989 in Maccabi's first-ever

Hapoel Jerusalem out to cut Partizan giants down to size

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The bigger they are, the harder they fall, so if Hapoel Jerusalem fool the pundits and pull off an upset tonight against Partizan Belgrade, EuroLeague basketball fans can expect to hear quite a thud.

That's because Partizan boasts a huge club capable of totally dominating the boards, led by Dejan Tomasevic (2.08) who is averaging 19 points and 7.5 rebounds per game in EuroLeague competition, and Predrag Drobnjak (2.10) who's scoring at a 14.5 clip but also averaging eight boards.

"Little" Harris Brick (1.98) is scoring 17.5 ppg, but makes up for it with a deft touch from outside, from where he sank 47.6% in last year's EuroLeague competition. Point guard Dragan Lukovski and Aleksandar Cibrilo (2.07) complete

the starting five for Partizan. Then there's the Partizan tradition: the boys from Belgrade took the European title in 1992, and last year made it to the final-16 before losing to Olympiakos.

Jerusalem can definitely build on last week's victory over Turkey's Ulker, but will need to be a bit more consistent on offense to hold their own against the Yugoslavs. Too many turnovers almost cost Gadi Kedar's team last week at home.

Radisav Curcic and Kenny Williams are sure to have their hands full under the boards, so Curcic will have to get the ball out super-quickly to either H. Waldman, Adi Gordon or Doron Shefa for outside shots.

Hapoel will also be looking for a lift from Motti Daniel, who is due for a big game after getting into foul trouble in his club's first two European encounters. Former

Princeton University player Jesse Rosenfield, who hardly played against Ulker, will also be counted on to go head-to-shoulder with the Partizan behemoths.

Partizan comes off an 87-71 road loss to Barcelona, and will be looking for an uplift. For Jerusalem, the game should go a long way toward determining whether they have the right stuff to compete against the elite of Europe.

Sports Channel (Cable channel 5) will cover the game beginning at 19:50 tonight.

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, Pts, Pts. Includes Barcelona, Kinder Bologna, Hapoel Jerusalem, Pan-Orthis, Partizan Belgrade, Ulker.

Adams, McManaman return for England match against Italy

LONDON (Reuters) — Coach Glenn Hoddle yesterday welcomed back experienced defender Tony Adams and England's prodigal sons Steve McManaman and Robbie Fowler for the "cup final of cup finals" — the vital World Cup qualifier against Italy.

Rocket's Triple Crown

Clemens tops AL in SO, ERA and wins; Gwynn takes 8th NL batting title; McGwire finishes with 58 HRs

NEW YORK (AP) — Roger Clemens certainly proved the Boston Red Sox were wrong.

On the final day of the regular season, Clemens struck out eight against his former team to pass Randy Johnson and win his fourth AL strikeout title, and the Toronto Blue Jays rallied to beat Boston 3-2 Sunday.

Last December, the three-time Cy Young Award winner left the Red Sox to sign a \$24.75 million, three-year contract with Toronto.

Clemens led the AL in victories (21), ERA (2.05) and strikeouts (a career-high 292).

"He left Boston with so much controversy and he shoved it up people's butts all year," said Mo Vaughn. "Nobody could be happier for him than I am."

At the SkyDome, Clemens came out trailing 2-1, leaving to a standing ovation after he fanned Mike Benjamin leading off the ninth.

Johnson, who pitched in relief Saturday to get his 20th win, finished with 291 strikeouts.

Athletics 9, Mariners 7

Ken Griffey Jr. did not hit a homer, finishing with a league-high 56, two behind Mark McGwire's major league-leading total.

Griffey went 1-for-2 with a walk at the Kingdome and left for a pinch-runner after singling in the fifth. He hit .304 and led the majors with 147 RBIs.

Ortolas 7, Brewers 6

Mark Davis plunked Brady Anderson with the bases loaded in the eighth at County Stadium, breaking a 6-all tie.

Yankees 7, Tigers 2

Hideki Irabu (5-4) allowed one run and two hits in five innings at Tiger Stadium, and Bernie Williams hit his 100th career home run as New York closed with five consecutive wins, finishing two games behind Baltimore at 96-56.

Twins 5, Indians 1

Charles Nagy allowed five runs and nine hits in seven innings at Jacobs Field.

Rangers 4, Angels 0

John Burkett (9-12) shut out the Angels for eight innings before being ejected by plate umpire John Hirschbeck after he opened the ninth by throwing two pitches at Jim Edmonds, apparent retaliation for Mike Bovee's brushback pitch against Damon Buford in the end of the inning.

In other action, the White Sox beat the Royals 4-3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Cardinals 2, Cubs 1

Mark McGwire hit his 58th home run, tying him for the most by a right-handed batter, in the St. Louis Cardinals' season-ending



TO THE STARS — Blue Jays pitcher Roger Clemens glances at the scoreboard which highlights his stratospheric season.

home victory. Since joining the Cardinals in a trading deadline deal with Oakland on July 31, he had 24 home runs in 51 games. McGwire, who has homered at least once in 12 consecutive series, finished two homers ahead of Seattle's Ken Griffey Jr. for the major league lead.

The game was also the finale for Cubs second baseman Ryne Sandberg, who was 0-for-2 with a warning track fly to center in the third in his final at-bat. Sandberg, who received a plaque in pregame ceremonies, finished with a .285 career average and a record 277 home runs as a second baseman.

Padres 5, Giants 3 (11)

San Diego's Tony Gwynn, bat-

ting a major-league high .372, sat out the game while the Padres played their younger players, but won his eighth NL batting title. Gwynn has hit 370 or better three times and at least .300 for the 15th straight season. He finished six points ahead of Colorado's Larry Walker.

Rockies 13, Dodgers 9

Dante Bichette homered for the second time, a two-run shot in the eighth, and host Colorado overcame a pair of two-run homers by Mike Piazza.

He finished just short of the record average for catchers, set by Bill Dickey with the New York Yankees in 1936. Dickey hit .361 to Piazza's .3615.

Pirates 5, Astros 4 (11)

Jose Guillen homered, drove in three runs and scored the winning run in the 11th inning as Pittsburgh Pirates notched a home win.

Mets 8, Braves 2

John Olerud hit a three-run homer off Denny Neagle to lead the Mets to a home win.

Phillies 8, Marlins 7

Rex Hudler's solo homer in the seventh inning, the fifth homer of the game, gave the Philadelphia Phillies a season-ending home victory.

Reds 11, Expos 3

Mike Remlinger carried a perfect game into the seventh inning before settling for a four-hitter as Cincinnati won on the road.

Final Major League Statistics

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEAM PITCHING

Team	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
Atlanta	3.18	1319	518	450	1196	17	37	3.18
Los Angeles	3.62	1325	587	546	1232	6	45	3.62
Houston	3.66	1379	594	511	1138	12	37	3.66
Florida	3.82	1353	615	639	1188	10	39	3.82
St. Louis	3.87	1422	627	534	1130	3	49	3.87
Montreal	3.99	1452	640	594	1023	8	49	3.99
San Francisco	4.29	1493	683	557	1134	17	37	4.29
Cincinnati	4.40	1408	710	558	1159	8	49	4.40
Chicago	4.44	1451	705	590	1072	4	37	4.44
Philadelphia	4.84	1441	765	616	1209	7	35	4.84
San Diego	4.98	1581	803	596	1059	2	43	4.98
Colorado	5.25	1697	836	566	870	5	38	5.25

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 16 decisions

Player	IP	H	ER	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
PJ Martinez	241	158	67	305	17	8	1	1.90
G Maddux	232	200	20	177	19	4	2	2.20
Kile	255	208	94	205	19	7	2	2.57
Noides	196	171	47	140	10	1	2	2.65
RJ Brown	237	214	66	205	16	8	2	2.69
R Reed	208	186	31	133	13	9	2	2.89
Albenses	161	128	68	160	9	9	2	2.89
Garner	240	197	79	152	14	7	2	2.94
Schilling	254	208	58	319	17	1	2	2.97
Neagle	233	204	49	172	20	5	2	2.97
McGriff	87	73	27	81	7	10	2	2.98
Smoltz	256	234	63	241	15	12	3	3.02
Ansbies	177	149	61	175	10	7	3	3.18
Esos	201	162	100	181	19	5	3	3.19
Morris	217	208	69	149	12	9	3	3.19
Park	192	149	70	164	14	8	3	3.37
Tonko	126	106	47	95	11	7	3	3.43
Raefer	190	194	51	115	13	8	3	3.45
Holt	209	211	61	95	8	12	3	3.52
A Fernandez	220	193	69	183	17	12	3	3.59
Candotti	135	128	40	89	10	7	3	3.60
Bjones	193	177	43	125	15	9	3	3.63
Rodova	178	175	49	121	11	8	3	3.63
R Garcia	158	155	52	120	9	8	3	3.69
Hernandez	158	154	66	136	8	8	3	3.69
M Clark	205	213	59	123	14	8	3	3.82
Hampton	223	217	77	139	15	10	3	3.83
Stolzmyre	181	155	65	160	12	9	3	3.88
Copez	206	206	48	110	12	13	3	3.88
Mercher	144	135	62	75	8	11	3	3.92
Milich	193	194	76	157	8	12	4	3.92
Ashby	200	207	49	144	9	11	4	3.93
Loziza	196	214	56	122	11	11	4	3.93
Remlinger	224	200	60	145	8	8	4	3.94
Astacio	102	100	61	166	12	10	4	4.14
Juden	130	125	57	107	11	5	4	4.22
Reynolds	181	189	47	152	9	10	4	4.23
M Holland	186	190	51	99	6	13	4	4.24
J Hamilton	192	199	69	124	12	7	4	4.25
Homo	207	193	92	233	14	12	4	4.25
J Gonzalez	144	126	69	93	11	9	4	4.25
Gardner	180	188	57	136	12	9	4	4.29
R Bailey	191	210	70	84	9	10	4	4.29
Goode	167	184	77	109	9	15	4	4.30
Alteier	151	133	91	132	11	9	4	4.34
Lieber	188	193	51	140	11	14	4	4.49
Trachsel	201	225	69	168	8	12	4	4.51
Schmidt	187	193	76	136	10	9	4	4.60
Foster	146	141	66	118	10	7	4	4.61
Thomson	166	193	51	106	7	9	4	4.71
Burba	160	165	73	131	11	10	4	4.72
Morgan	162	165	49	103	9	12	4	4.78
Hinchcock	161	172	55	106	10	11	5	4.78
Smiley	111	139	31	90	10	5	5	4.23
Castillo	184	220	69	126	12	12	5	4.25
Bullinger	185	165	74	87	7	12	5	4.56
Meister	182	216	64	148	10	17	5	4.67
J Wright	149	191	59	8	12	6	25	4.65

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 16 decisions

Player	IP	H	ER	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
McGriff	262	204	68	292	21	7	2	2.05
R Johnson	213	147	77	291	20	4	2	2.28
Gene	195	155	86	222	12	6	2	2.82
Pesitte	240	233	65	164	18	7	2	2.88
J Thompson	222	188	66	151	15	11	3	3.02
Alvarez	145	126	55	110	9	8	3	3.03
Mussina	224	197	54	218	15	8	3	3.20
Appier	235	215	74	194	9	13	4	3.40
Paterson	71	70	23	69	10	6	3	3.42
Key	212	210	82	141	16	10	3	3.43
Fassero	234	226	84	189	16	9	3	3.61
Hengen	264	253	71	160	15	10	3	3.68
Ericson	221	218	61	131	16	7	3	3.69
Gordon	182	155	78	159	6	10	3	3.74
J Mercedes	159	146	53	80	7	10	3	3.79
Moyer	188	187	43	113	17	5	3	3.86
Roth	239	238	48	174	20	10	3	3.87
Kamieniecki	179	179	67	109	10	6	4	4.01
Blair	175	184	46	90	16	8	4	4.17
D Oliver	201	213	82	104	13	12	4	4.20
D Wells	218	239	45	156	16	10	4	4.21
Tewsbury	168	200	31	92	8	13	4	4.22
O'Leary	164	152	65	155	13	6	4	4.23
Wakfield	201	193	67	152	12	15	4	4.25
Nagy	227	253	77	149	15	11	4	4.28
Dickson	203	236	56	115	13	9	4	4.29
W Williams	194	201	66	124	9	14	4	4.35
Hershiser	195	199	69	107	14	6	4	4.47
Karl	193	212	67	119	10	13	4	4.47
K Hill	190	194	95	106	9	12	4	4.55
Burkett	189	240	30	139	9	12	4	4.56
Moehler	175	198	61	97	11	12	4	4.67
Rosado	203	208	73	129	9	12	4	4.69
D Amico	135	139	43	94	9	7	4	4.71
Witt	209	245	74	121	12	12	4	4.82
Watson	199	220	73	141	12	12	4	4.93
Olivares	177	191	81	103	6	10	4	4.97
Eldred	202	207	89	122	13	15	4	4.99
Ogpa	126	139	47	80	8	9	4	4.99
Belcher	213	247	70	113	13	12	5	5.02
Springer	194	199	73	75	9	5	18	5.18
Baldwin	200	205	83	140	12	15	5	5.26
Sole	177	196	80	123	13	12	5	5.38
Robertson	147	169	70	69	8	8	12	5.39
Drabek	169	170	69	85	12	11	5	5.74
Navarro	209	267	73	142	9	14	5	5.79
Hawkins	103	134	47	58	6	12	5	5.84
Sanders	139	152	62	120	6	14	5	5.86
Wengert	134	177	41	68	5	11	6	5.84
Lira	110	132	55	73	5	11	6	5.34

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEAM PITCHING

Team	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
New York	3.83	1403	626	532	1165	10	51	3.83
Baltimore	3.91	1404	635	563	1139	10	59	3.91
Toronto	3.93	1453	630	497	1150	16	34	3.93
Milwaukee	4.21	1419	669	542	1016	8	44	4.21
Anaheim	4.51	1506	730	605				

GRAPEVINE By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Remembering an era

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

The gathering at the Tower of David Museum looked more like a convention of veteran journalists than a group of visitors to a photo exhibition. They were there for the opening of an exhibition of the first color photographs of Jerusalem, taken 50 years ago by journalist-photographer Martha Levin. For former colleagues from *The Jerusalem Post and Time* magazine as well as Americans and Brits who were part of the Jerusalem scene in the 1940s, the occasion was also a reunion. Among those at the opening were Richard Osterman, Yuval Elitzur, Diana Lerner, David Gross, Larry Frisch, Alex Berlyne, Zipporah Porath, Sas Jacoby and David Rubinger, for whom the nascent years of the state were not just history but steeped in personal memories.

While commending Levin's contribution to the fourth estate's coverage of Israel, Jerusalem mayor Ehud Olmert, still riding high on the Jerusalem 3000 festivities, observed that nonetheless the period was only 50 years out of 3000.



Olmert puts statehood in perspective. (Brian Hendler)

LAST week it wasn't a hundred percent certain that the Netanyahu would be celebrating Rosh Hashana in the Prime Minister's official residence. But they made it just in time.

AFTER traveling a long road with the movers and shakers of Israel, first as spokesman for Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, then as a journalist, and for the past 17 years as director of the Israel office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Harry Wall has returned to the US with his family. Wall, who had access to power brokers and opinion-makers on all sides of the political fence and met most of the high-ranking Americans who came to Israel, has joined the New York-based international strategic consulting organization, Strategy XXI Group Ltd. Many of the thousands of friends he made in Israel are sure to bump into him sooner or later in one of the coffee shops on Madison Avenue. The personable Wall just loves chewing the fat over a cup of java.

SILVER-haired Helen Septimus, who was honored as Woman of the Year at the AMIT Women's annual scholarship dinner at the Jerusalem Renaissance Hotel, is proof that juggling a career and volunteerism is no recent phenomenon. A history teacher at Union City High School in New Jersey for a number of years and later the executive manager of a prestigious New York law firm, Septimus, who came on aliyah in 1981, established many AMIT chapters in the US and served on the National Executive Boards of AMIT in America and Israel.

AMIT Women, and its forerunner American Mizrahi Women, is very much a family affair for Septimus. Her mother, the late Ida Freiman, was actively involved in AMW and her sisters Marcie Neugeboren, Celia Epstein and Esther Zuckerbrot, and sisters-in-law Frances Freiman and Sylvia Freiman, are all active in AMIT. Each has served as president of her respective chapter. When Septimus went to the beau-



Harry's gone A-Wall (Richard Howitz)



Moshe Katsav and his very own Miss Universe, Ofra Haza.

ty parlor on the day of the dinner, she ran into 20 other women attending the function who were all having their hair styled in the same place. "I wish they'd honor you every day," said the hair dresser. "This is the most business I've had all week."

AN example of the younger generation of career women who manage to combine their professions with community concerns and their roles of wife and mother is epidemiologist Robba Kahn, chairperson of AMIT's Israel executive. On the day of the Amit scholarship dinner, Kahn, a mother of four and a doctoral degree student, returned from a tour of Poland and the Czech Republic where she had accompanied her daughter's class. Undeterred by lack of sleep, Kahn prepared a comprehensive report on AMIT's activities and the successes of its many educational programs. AMIT is particularly concerned that youngsters from economically deprived families not be denied educational opportunities.

FULL accreditation at last. Years of political crises in Yugoslavia precluded the appointment of a Yugoslavian ambassador to Israel. Although he performed all the duties of an ambassador, chargé d'affaires Mirko Stefanovic did not have the title that went with the job—at least not until this month, when he was notified of his elevation in rank. Although Stefanovic and his attractive wife, Lilljana, didn't make a big fuss about the appointment, the word got out and they received many congratulatory messages from fellow envoys.

EVERYONE emerged a winner when the Zvyotel hotel chain officially adopted the Hand-in-Hand



The good ole days, Tel Aviv, before Clooney spurned photographers. (Gideon Markowicz)

Association at a reception at the Blue-Weiss Spa, Netanya. Hand-in-Hand provides warm homes for economically and emotionally deprived children. Mark Zibi, one of the owners of the chain, presented Hand-in-Hand chairperson Shelli Hoshen with a check for NIS 50,000. Ofra Haza, who as a rule does not perform for audiences standing in hotel lobbies, made an exception because of the affection she feels for Hand-in-Hand. Haza, pianist Rafi Kadishson and Spanish guitar virtuoso Baldi Olier and his son Barak all performed gratis and received tumultuous applause. Notwithstanding her celebrity status, Haza stood with the rest of the audience, next to her husband Doron Ashkenazy during the speeches. Obviously very much in love, the newly-wed Ashkenazys held hands until Haza had to go on stage, as he looked on adoringly. Referring to the possibility that the next Miss Universe contest will be held in Israel, Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav said, "When I look at Ofra Haza, I know we already have Miss Universe."

LONG before the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, actor George Clooney was vigorously pursuing his own anti-paparazzi campaign. Now photographers are retaliating. Clooney has suddenly become the invisible man. Wherever he goes, including premieres of his own movies, the paparazzi point their cameras in the air instead of focusing on the star. Apparently, they can all get along fine without Clooney. The question is whether Clooney can get along without them.



Flax (left) and Rosenfeld: from white-collar crime to Caribbean Chicken. (AP)

A pizza the pie

By RACHEL BECK

Larry Flax and Rick Rosenfeld didn't want to open just another pizza shop. When these two defense attorneys exchanged their legal pads for pizza cutters in 1985, their goal was to put a new spin on traditional pizza and then serve it in a quick but pleasant dining environment.

Twelve years later, their California Pizza Kitchen chain is now in 80 US cities, and plans are in place for international expansion and new, smaller fast-service outlets.

"We set out to reinvent pizza. Now upscale pizza is our brand," said Flax, whose personal favorites include the B.L.T. pizza and the Caribbean Chicken pizza. "There aren't too many other places that offer premium fast-food like we do," he said.

Flax and Rosenfeld met in the 1960s while working as federal prosecutors in Los Angeles. In 1973, they formed a private practice, dealing mostly with white-collar criminal cases.

While the two worked as lawyers, their passion was for the kitchen. After a case took them to San Francisco for four months, they decided they wanted out of law and were ready to test the restaurant business.

"We always wanted to do it, but then a big retainer would come along and we would delay the dream," Rosenfeld said while munching on a salad and focaccia bread at their newest restaurant in

Paramus, New Jersey. "Once we did open, we realized this let us be creative," he said. "It wasn't the judge and jury controlling our destiny, but the people who came to our restaurant to eat."

Their first restaurant opened in Beverly Hills, where they're still headquartered. Following the path of famed California chefs Alice Waters and Wolfgang Puck, they too offered "designer pizzas" topped with everything from goat cheese to rabbit sausage.

But diners didn't jump at their menu. Instead, they yearned for pizzas that meshed the traditional variety with new flavors and foods, like the now famed Original BBQ Chicken pizza, a combination of barbecued chicken, sliced red onion, cilantro and smoked Gouda cheese.

The menu was soon changed and to this day, it tries to include new, popular foods in the pizzas, pastas, and salads. Thai chicken in a spicy peanut-ginger sauce and portobello mushrooms are now found in a number of dishes.

"We want people to crave our food," Flax said. "We want people to read the menu and almost taste what they are ordering. Then they'll be wowed by what they are eating."

CPK's success came fast, a lucky thing for Flax and Rosenfeld, who had no back-up plan if their restaurant failed. CPK caters mostly to upscale diners who want a quick meal but dislike traditional fast food. Sites soon opened around southern California and then in cities like

Honolulu, Chicago and Atlanta. By the early 1990s, CPK operated some 25 restaurants.

But the biggest growth spurt for CPK came after PepsiCo Inc. bought a controlling stake in 1992, reportedly for between \$60 million (NIS 210 million) and \$70 million (NIS 245 m.). Flax and Rosenfeld continued to manage the chain, opening nearly 50 CPK restaurants in the past four years.

With Pepsi's financial backing, CPK became the 13th largest upscale casual dining chain in the US, with sales of \$175 million (NIS 612 m.) last year, a 4 percent gain from 1995.

In July, Pepsi sold its CPK share to an investment firm for a reported \$100 million (NIS 350 m.). The move came as part of Pepsi's decision earlier in the year to move out of the casual-dining business. "With help from Pepsi, the penetration of our brand was significant," Flax said.

"Now we are thinking of taking the company public, which will help us achieve our dream of making CPK a global brand," added Rosenfeld, finishing his partner and best friend's sentence as they often do.

In addition, growth opportunities are seen abroad. Plans are already set for three restaurants to open in Asia in the next few years.

"McDonald's" became the world's largest chain because people liked its consistency," Flax said. "Most of our loyal customers feel the same way about us. We want to bring that to people worldwide." (AP)

Confessions of a Tupperware virgin

We all sat around in a circle seated on comfortable furniture in a friend's Ra'anana home. "Have any of you done this before?" a South African woman named Lesley asked us. Two of us bashfully admitted that they had. The rest of us shook our heads.

It was our first time. "So you're virgins," said Lesley, adding in a reassuring voice. "Don't worry, I'll explain it all to you from the beginning."

She explained, we listened carefully and by the end, felt as if we had been initiated. That is why today I can proudly announce that I know all there is to know about Tupperware. I have attended my first Tupperware party.

I must admit, receiving the invitation threw me for a loop. You see, since moving from grimy, noisy Tel Aviv to the suburban town that calls itself "The Pearl of the Sharon," I have been in the throes of reverse culture shock. When I first moved to Israel, I wouldn't have been caught dead in a place like Ra'anana; "If I'd wanted to live in New Jersey, I

designed so that when I store my salad, the excess liquid drips down, and my tomatoes stay crunchy; or a big oval plastic container with a pop-up spout to keep my comfakes in so they don't get stale.

None of the women who attended was an empty-headed ditz; all were intelligent, most everyone worked, except for the one Harvard grad who was studying for her MBA. One woman, a high-powered marketing executive, seemed to be

'The sales pitch at the parties promotes the hope that Tupperware will be the key to bringing your life under control.'

would have stayed in the United States," were my actual words five years ago.

I wanted to be more Israeli than the Israelis; and Tel Aviv was what I considered living. It was a wonderful, fun, lively city, but it was also grimy, noisy, and dog-eat-dog. I had to adapt myself to the rough and cynical ways of Israeli culture, learn Hebrew rapidly, quickly develop street smarts, and adapt to the fact that I was not in Kansas anymore.

Now, having finally migrated north in search of more living space, a backyard, and a good school system, I'm slowly getting used to the fact that in Ra'anana, immigrants from English-speaking countries are not some weird exotic micro-minority, but an impressive percentage of the citizenry, and a significant force in the local culture.

But Tupperware parties? That seemed to be going a bit far, and the concept reawakened my unflattering suburban stereotypes. I didn't even know such things still existed in America, let alone in Israel. I mean, weren't they for bored housewives who had nothing more interesting to contemplate than what they would store their leftovers in? Women who, after a day of burping babies, wanted nothing more than to "burp" Tupperware? (To you Tupperware virgins, when you want to hermetically seal your foods in their trademark plastic containers, you have to "burp" out the last bit of air.) Didn't this kind of thing disappear in the 1950s?

Well, it didn't. And in the end, I went, I bought, and I even had a good time.

something of a Tupperware party addict. She wouldn't disclose the number of parties she had attended, but every time a product was described she'd exclaim, "Oh, I have that!"

Our saleswoman, Lesley, also seems to have gotten a little carried away with Tupperware. And why not? It seems that much of the compensation for being a Tupperware "pusher" comes in the form of free products. Lesley says that her bathroom is full of Tupperware: containers which seal away her cotton balls and makeup and feminine hygiene products, as if— heaven forbid— letting sanitary pads sit in the box might cause them to get stale.

Now that I'm no longer a Tupperware virgin, I think I understand the appeal of the products to the frazzled '90s superwoman. First, the parties give you an excuse to get out of the house and socialize during the work week. But there's a deeper level.

The sales pitch at the parties promotes the hope that Tupperware will be the key to bringing your life under control. After all, in the idealized Tupperware world, you can cook once a month, freeze everything in a rainbow of plastic containers, and you're home free—no more cooking for weeks. And if you own the right containers— presto! The rest of the clutter in your house will disappear like magic.

You don't have to be a '50s housewife to be turned on by that idea. So if you ask me what I've learned in my first month in a new hometown, it's this: Life can be simple and perfect—if you only have enough bowls that burp.

No vaccine against rejection

Dear Ruthie, How can I get a man I'm interested in to ask me out? Please do not advise me to ask him out. I know it's the Nineties, but I just can't do it. I think the man in question doesn't know I'm interested in him, which is why I have this problem. I'm not sure he would be interested in me if he did know. This whole thing makes me feel like I'm back in high school. But the truth is, even in high school I wasn't very good at this game.

Hining Honey Somewhere in the United States Dear Not-Even-Hinting Honey, Nineties or no Nineties, the fear of rejection is ageless. What you are describing is a reluctance to risk being turned down. In this respect, you are no different from a man in the same position. For all you know, the man you're after fears your rejection even more than you fear his. If so, he may be "punning out feelers" of which you are unaware, as a way of minimizing his own risk.

What you are seeking is a Nineties method of tossing your handkerchief "inadvertently" for this man to retrieve, and, in the process, make a little eye contact. Maybe even get a dinner invitation.

The "high-school method" is to have a mutual friend pass on the message that there is mutual interest, and then wait to see whether there is mutual interest. A more adult method might be to invite this man along with other people to a dinner party, office gathering, or other form of group setting. But even then, you'll have to wait to see whether your bait has hooked your prey.

Ironically, as is true with so many other things in life, even success on this score provides no guaran-

tees of any kind. There's simply no vaccine against rejection.

Dear Ruthie, My niece has moved to a flat near my home, which is quite a distance from her parents. She has fallen in love with a boy I am certain my sister and brother-in-law would strongly disapprove of. I have had a few sleepless nights debating whether to sit my niece down for a "heart-to-heart" chat, or speak to her parents. Can you advise me?

Anxious Auntie Somewhere in Israel Dear Ansy Aunt, If your niece is old enough to live on her own, she is old enough to begin making her way in the world. This may mean making a lot of her own mistakes. Becoming a self-appointed guardian is likely to backfire. Any rift between your niece and her parents which occurs as a result of a "heart-to-heart" will disturb your sleep no less than it has been disturbed so far. Furthermore, while the boy in your niece's life might be replaced in the near future, any bad feelings on her part towards you are likely to stick around.

The only instance in which I would advise you to interfere is where there is a clear signal from your niece that she wants your help, say, parading provocatively with her boyfriend in front of you, or asking for your approval and/or advice.

Until that time, you might as well get some sleep. If your sister wants a private detective or substitute parent to keep her daughter in line, she hasn't let go of her yet. So you really have nothing to worry about.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@post.co.il

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CONCERT ROUNDUP

Pros and concerts

The season's opening concert of the Israel Camerata, conducted by Ayner Biron, featured an almost standard Classic-Romantic program, except for Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 9 for string orchestra. This work provided a welcome change. Not only did it deviate from the familiar, but its allegro movements' delicate light-wingedness and its adagio movement's somewhat baroque-sounding weightiness are far more mature than one would expect from a 14-year-old composer.

Another welcome change was the works by Haydn, Mozart and Mendelssohn.

The Israel Camerata
Jerusalem Theater, September 21

film that preceded the concert. Entitled *From Mao to Mozart: Isaac Stern in China, 1979*, the short documentary highlighted the violin virtuoso's visit to post-Cultural Revolution China. Operating from the principle that "you don't use music to play the violin, you use the violin to play music," Stern lovingly showed young Chinese violin students how to open their hearts and minds to the "soul" of the pieces they were playing.

The film opened and closed with an intense, highly skilled young boy playing the cello — Jian Wang, who was the Camerata's guest soloist.

The wunderkind has obviously developed into an adult cellist to be reckoned with. Wang performed Haydn's Cello Concerto in D major with a delightfully light touch, producing a sonorous, singing tone, enjoyably faithful to the work's cheerful mood, while displaying formidable and effortless command of the work's demanding technique.

Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony, after starting off with an annoyingly erratic tempo, settled down to a conventional rendition blissfully inattentive to details.

The tones in one of the adagio movement's most lovely themes could, like the children in the proverb, be seen (in the score) but not heard, swallowed wholesale as they were. Occasional lack of clarity in the final movement was typical of a mediocre rather than an outstanding performance.

Ury Eppstein

UNDER THE fiery baton of Yuval Zaliouk, this work was the highlight of the orchestra's opening concert. David D'Or, with his rich, colorful tones, expressed all the minute nuances of this intense here-and-now yet universal opus: from horror and anguish to hope and prayer for tolerance and reconciliation.

"Children of God"
By Joseph Bardanshvil
Ra'anana Symphonette

Bardanshvil's passionate monologue, written in a clear late 20th-century idiom, sends chills down your spine. The rest of the evening was markedly less rewarding.

The orchestra sounded weak, as if long-gone composers were unable to inspire the musicians on the stage. In a monotonous, unfocused Schubert's Fifth Symphony, the first violins were especially awkward. Things did not improve after the intermission. The American pianist Andre Michel Schub, playing Beethoven's Fifth Concerto ("Emperor"), kept all his emotions to himself, never allowing them to infuse his lackluster instrument.

Maxim Reider

IBA MUSIC director David Shalton loves Mahler. But his Mahler concerts have had their ups and downs. This time around, the concert was a real "up," suggesting that the JSO,

when in the right mood, can play very well. However, there was a downside. There were too many

Mahler's Third Symphony
JSO
International Convention Center
September 25

kicks in the brass, far too many unclear entrances and notes, and the female choir was obviously not ready for the concert. But despite these elements, the overall performance was highly impressive. Shalton does not interpret Mahler, he plays it. Under his assured baton, the JSO gave a commendable, solid and inspired reading of the symphony. Most memorable were the fourth movement in which mezzo-soprano Susanna Poretsky caressed the audience with her warm vocal instrument, and the final movement which brought to a climactic end this powerful, dramatic presentation. It was a most impressive way to open the season, a performance the JSO should be proud of.

Michael Ajzenstadt

MOZART'S Great Mass was never completed by the composer. In fact, there are serious differences of opinion as to how much of it he originally wrote. While it is well known that the work lacks the final Agnus Dei, those who attended the ICO concert got a real surprise. When they applauded enthusiastically after the Benedictus, where this unfinished mass usually ends, conductor Salvador Mas-Condé continued. He presented the Agnus Dei, probably his own idea to put the missing text to the music Mozart used for the opening movements. This was a very satisfactory concert, albeit in certain details and not in its overall presentation.

The Mozart mass was well performed by the ICO, the visiting Prague Chamber Choir, and the four soloists. But I did not agree with the conductor's choice of tempo and stylistic approach. It was a grandiose, bombastic, overly classical leaning toward the romantic ren-

Mozart's C minor Mass and
Mendelssohn's Second
Piano Concerto
Israel Chamber Orchestra
Tel Aviv Museum, September 28

dition of the music. The swift movement and the airy aplomb of Mozart's music were lacking here. Instead of presenting Mozart with a touch of the periods before him, this was Mozart in light of the music that came after him. It was a legitimate approach, but not necessarily the right one. Instead of presenting the ICO as a chamber orchestra, this approach demanded of it to play as if it were a large symphonic orchestra, and this is wrong.

The ICO played Mozart, though, much better than in the first half of the evening in which it accompanied Daniel Gortler in Mendelssohn's Second Piano Concerto.

Here the ICO played in a loud, obtrusive, insensitive manner, almost oblivious to the soloist sharing the stage with them.

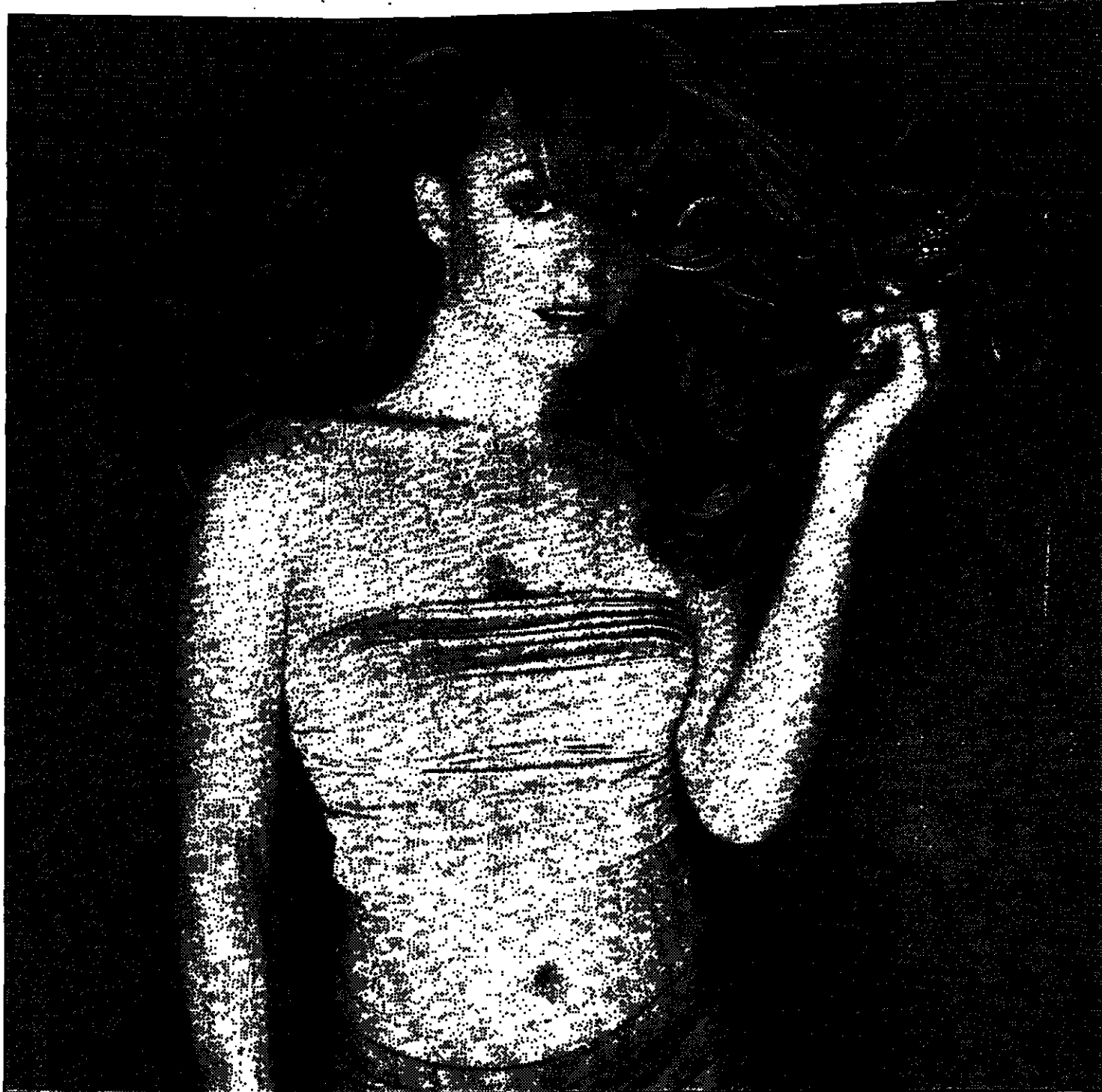
Gortler trilled lyrically and poetically on the keyboard while the orchestra shouted and distorted. While the soloist suggested that this concerto was beautiful and intriguing, the ICO fogged that accompaniment in an art form in its own right.

It played in a most annoying way, a continuation of the way it opened the concert, even playing the national anthem in a rather loud and unappealing way.

However, Daniel Gortler made it possible to enjoy Mendelssohn despite the orchestra. He was the real star of the evening.

Michael Ajzenstadt

IN TUNE



Mariah Carey wastes her powerful voice on mediocre songs and elevator-music arrangements.

Sugar-coated Mariah

By DAVID BRINN

TOP 40 radio — or "contemporary hit radio," as it's referred to today — hasn't changed much over the years. The goal is to grab the listener with easily hummable melodies and unforgettable hooks. Probably the only major difference between the hits of the 1960s through 1970s — dominated by the likes of Three Dog Night and the Carpenters who produced solid light AM fare — and today's hitmakers is the 1990s influence of hip-hop and rap which emphasizes groove and dance.

Thank the mid-1970s disco explosion for that, as that much-derided dance-based movement has proven to be much more influential than the flash-in-the-pan label it received from many rock pundits.

A look at top-40 artists today reveals as varied a palate as those mining the field decades earlier.

Working the same pop-dance-ballad territory as Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey has always been far more impressive than her material. Possessing a dazzling range, Carey was criticized early in her career for using her voice just to show off.

Later releases saw her toning down the overkill and favoring subtlety. No matter what she's done, she's sold millions with each release.

On her seventh album, *Butterfly*, she switches with ease between the groove-oriented dance beats of "Honey" and "The Roof" and the lush balladry of the title song and "My All."

Carey seems to aspire to the middle of the road, with even the hip-hop edges appearing

mutated and restrained. Carey's voice is still powerful, but she wastes it on mediocre songs and elevator-music arrangements. Most of it, however, fits the sugar-coated Top-40 format just fine. Expect it to sell a ton.

A LOOSELY knit conglomerate led by songwriter and vocalist Jazzy B., Soul II Soul has been one of the more popular later-day soul units capable of fusing 1970s Philly soul, disco, reggae and hip-hop.

On *Time for a Change*, they mix the groove, the message and the soul to create a sound that sounds nothing but current.

A few pointless rhythm tracks aside, the album shifts from smoky R&B balladry to smoldering dance riffs. Not strong on melody, the group makes up for it with feeling and a sense of social activism. Witness the title track and "Dare to Differ," which conjures up images of late 1960s Marvin Gaye.

A few songs would sound just fine on Top-40 radio, including the moody "Pleasure

Dome" and the classic soul of "Thank You."

THE *Collection 3* is the third installment of NMC's immensely successful hit compilation series. US readers may remember the old K-Tel collections which combed the Top-40 airwaves for the most inispid and disposable of hits. *Collection 3* is a little better, and the average 13-year-old listener or MTV viewer will know all the songs by heart.

Tapping guitar rock (Oasis, Meredith Brooks, Suede), synth pop (Depeche Mode, Pet Shop Boys) and teen idols (Ricky Martin, Robbie Williams), the collection provides exactly what there is out there, in 1997, for better or worse.

ANY discussion of Top-40 radio would not be complete without including one of the most successful hit-making bands of all time, Fleetwood Mac.

Like Seventies compatriots the Eagles, who regrouped and released a live album of old and new songs, the Mac Attack got together for a reunion concert this year and a live album, *The Dance*, with the classic Buckingham/Nicks-led lineup which produced their solid gold hits.

The results are a semi-unplugged sound, three-part harmonies that match those in their heyday, all the hits and nothing but the hits. "Rhianon," "Say You Love Me" and "Go Your Own Way" are but a few of the monster smashes that receive reworked but inspired treatments.

There's no reason to buy this except for sheer nostalgia, but it does recall a time when Top-40 radio and quality pop were not mutually exclusive.

FBI surrenders secret files on John Lennon

By HENRY WEINSTEIN

UNDER pressure from a Los Angeles federal judge, the FBI has grudgingly surrendered most of its remaining secret files on Nixon-era surveillance of former Beatle John Lennon, bringing a 16-year legal battle close to conclusion.

The agency has turned over about 40 pages of documents on its investigation of Lennon to University of California, Irvine professor Jonathan M. Wiener, author of a 1984 book on the late rock star.

The FBI had fought for more than a decade to keep the memos secret on grounds including national security. The documents range from reports on Lennon's contacts with anti-war organizers to a description of a talking parrot in an activist's grungy New York apartment.

"This action gives to professor Wiener all but a thimbleful of the documents he originally sought," said Mark Rosenbaum, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, co-lead counsel for the professor.

"These documents show that the FBI investigation was conducted in the manner of the shabbiest tabloid journalism imaginable and they show that the FBI had nothing better to do than

record the utterances of a parrot and indulge in gossip and innuendo about rock musicians who happened to take political stances."

Among the documents turned over this week is an April 26, 1972, FBI memo from an unnamed agency source describing a trip by a Madison, Wisconsin, leftist to New York where she met with "Yippie and Zippie representatives" who were planning demonstrations at the August 1972 Republican National Convention.

The memo states that Lennon told the activists that "he will ... come to the conventions if they are peaceful," and on the condition that his appearance not be advertised in advance.

Los Angeles attorney Dan Marmalefsky, Wiener's co-lead counsel, said that document alone illustrates the spurious nature of the FBI investigation of Lennon.

"The whole ostensible purpose for having Lennon under surveillance was the concern that he would be disrupting the Republican convention in August 1972," he said. "In fact, as the information released to us this week now reveals, the FBI's own informant told them in April 1972 that Lennon would only participate if the demonstrations were peaceful."

Both of Wiener's attorneys said the fact that the FBI withheld the documents for more than a decade shows that the agency has not properly complied with the Freedom of Information Act.

Justice Department spokesman Joe Krovisky disagreed. He said that the department continues to believe that it has never been obligated to relinquish the documents turned over this week, saying they were released on a discretionary basis.

Krovisky also offered an explanation of why the FBI launched its Lennon probe 25 years ago: "The investigation of Lennon was precipitated because a source provided the FBI with information that Lennon was going to contribute and did contribute \$75,000 to an organization which said it was going to disrupt the Republican National Convention in 1972."

"When the FBI got that information it was obligated to check it out."

The files turned over by the FBI include a February 7, 1972, memo stating that a confidential source told the agency Lennon had contributed \$75,000 to assist in the formation of a group called Election Year Strategy Information Center, or EYSIC.

The memo states that the group's purpose was to "direct movement activities during the

coming election year designed to culminate with demonstrations at the Republican National Convention in August, 1972." Nothing in the documents turned over by the FBI in the case describes Lennon involved in the planning of any illegal act or engaging in any illegal act. Ultimately, he skipped the Republican convention.

The lengthy April 1972 memo also describes the slovenly apartment of a young New York leftist who had trained her parrot to chirp "Right On" whenever a political conversation got particularly lively.

Wiener has won several legal victories against the FBI, including a 1990 decision by a federal appeals court rejecting the FBI's argument that it had to keep documents secret in order to protect federal informants and intelligence methods.

But the case is still not over. Portions of ten documents turned over recently were blacked out and the Justice Dept. contends that it still does not have to turn over 10 remaining documents from its Lennon file.

The government asserts that making public the papers would violate agreements with an undisclosed foreign country — believed to be Britain — that provided information on Lennon. (LA Times)

Succot in Rishon — wine not?

By HELEN KAYE

THE Gashash Hahvir, Avi Kushnir, Margalit Tzan'ani, Bnot Pessia and Gali Atari are a few of the big names lending their glamour and talents to the ninth annual Rishon LeZion Succot Wine Festival, which will be popping its cork on October 20 and 21.

The Carmel Mizrahi winery and the city of Rishon, which put up most of the NIS 1 million budget, always succeed in creating a happening that's fun for the whole family. This year, in honor of Israel's jubilee, the festival will celebrate local vintages and local stars.

The Gashash and Kushnir will be splitting sides in the winery courtyard (tickets NIS 85) with guest stars Gidi Gov one night and singer Etti Ankri the next. Special programs include 50 years of Israeli song and two sets of musical programs — "Israeli Harvest" and "Fragrant Land" — with such favorites as David D'Or, Etti Ankri, Hakol Over Habibi (with wonderful Shlomit Aharon), Sarah Sharon, and many more, including the debut of yet another Benari offspring, Eyyatar, the younger brother of Orna and Meir.

There will also be a tribute to songwriter Yair Rosenblum, who died last year.

The festival will occupy the entire town center, where the traditional huge tent succa will be set up. And, for the first time, all of Rothschild Street between Herzl and Jabotinsky will be closed off for a wine-and-food fair, with the participation of some of the country's top restaurants.

There are ticketed events (NIS 40 to NIS 60), but the best part of the Rishon Festival is that the big names also perform on the freebie stages all over town.

The downside is that parking is a problem, but at least it's free for the two nights of the festival. Security will be heavy; all security measures have been coordinated with the Rishon police.

Paul promotes pot

By TARA FITZGERALD

FORMER Beatle Sir Paul McCartney, promoted to the British establishment this year with a knighthood, has recently called for the legalization of cannabis.

"I support decriminalization [of cannabis]. People are smoking pot anyway, to make them criminal is wrong," he said. He added that it was pointless to fill jails with people who smoked cannabis because this would most likely turn them into criminals.

McCartney's comments angered anti-drug campaigners, who said he had ignored the long-term risks involved in taking the drug.

"Cannabis is often billed as a relatively harmless drug — which compared to opiates it is — but it's not without its risks," said a spokesman for the drug treatment agency Turning Point. "If you spent all day smoking it, you'd never get out of bed."

Medical research shows that cannabis users can develop a psychological dependence on the drug as well as a range of physical problems.

A spokeswoman for the British Home Office said McCartney's comments were "unhelpful."

Citing his own experience of being arrested for possessing marijuana in 1980, McCartney said he learned nothing from it. "When I was jailed in Japan for having pot, there was no attempt at rehabilitation. They just stuck me in a cell for nine days," he said. "Decriminalization would take the sting out of the issue," he added.

The Home Office spokeswoman countered, "It's all very well to speak from a personal point of view, but our position is that no drug is a safe drug. There is no research yet to say that cannabis doesn't have a long-term effect on people," she said. "There is also the issue of whether it is a 'gateway drug' which paves the way toward taking hard drugs."

Better known nowadays for his clean-living vegetarian lifestyle, McCartney told his official biographer that he had been "turned on to pot" by Bob Dylan in 1964.

He also said it was he who introduced Rolling Stone Mick Jagger to the drug two years later in London. Jagger denied the story.

(Reuters)

NEWS

in brief

Histadrut threatens more strikes after holiday

A day after an eight-hour general strike that crippled the country, Histadrut leaders yesterday threatened more sanctions after Rosh Hashana. Little progress was reported after a meeting between Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, and Histadrut leaders said they will consider renewing strike action on Sunday. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Holon high school teachers protest

Secondary school teachers in Holon will stay out of class from 10 to 11 this morning to protest an incident last week when a teacher at the city's Mitran High School was struck by a parent. According to a Secondary Schools Teachers Association spokeswoman, the father of a girl pupil burst into her class last Thursday and began hitting the teacher, whom he accused of insulting his daughter the day before. To protest the threat posed to teachers by violent parents, the teachers plan to hold meetings to discuss the situation during the hour away from class today. *Aryeh Dean Cohen*

Hammer wants A-G's opinion on Channel 2 move

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer said yesterday that he would seek an opinion from Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein on the legality of the decision by the Second Television and Radio Authority Council to advance the date for determining the future of Channel 2 franchises. The STRA last week decided to advance its decisions regarding the continuance of Keshet, Reshet, and Tel-Ad beyond 1999 to December 31 this year. "To decide two years before the end of the franchise is unreasonable, and while we do not wish to interfere in the franchisee's or council's legal status or decision making, they have to understand that the government's acceptance of the Peled Commission recommendations has changed the local communications map," said Hammer. *Helen Kaye*

Munich Olympic athletes memorialized

A memorial was held in Tel Aviv yesterday for the 11 athletes killed by terrorists at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. Among the attendees were President Ezer Weizman, Deputy Education and Sport Minister Moshe Peled, Mayor Ronni Milo, Israel Olympic Committee chairman Zvi Warsawick, and several members of the Olympic team. *Itim*

Blood donors needed

Blood donors are asked to give before Rosh Hashana or at least not to leave it until after the end of Succot, due to seasonal shortages during the High Holy Days. Magen David Adom said that more information about blood collection times is available from the toll-free number 1-800-225911. MDA has made special preparations to provide first aid at campsites and other recreation areas over the holiday and to boost its ambulance services. *Judy Siegel*

Lily Maor gets German Order of Merit

Lily Maor, founder of the association of the survivors of Oberheide, yesterday received the German Order of Merit from German Ambassador Theodor Wallau for her efforts to build bridges between Germany and Israel, despite her personal suffering as a Holocaust survivor. *Jerusalem Post Staff*



Dates for the premier

Children from the Jordan Valley present Prime Minister Binjamin Netanyahu and his wife Sara with a box of dates and flowers for Rosh Hashana at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem yesterday. *(Byron McBane)*

Strike forces surgeon to operate in underwear

By JUDY SIEGEL

The deputy head of Wolfson Hospital's ophthalmology department had to perform an emergency operation wearing only his underpants on Sunday night, because he lacked a sterile gown due to the strike by government hospital maintenance staff.

Wolfson director Dr. Moshe Mashiah told this to Health Minister Yehoshua Matza yesterday during an emergency meeting of hospital directors.

Talks between the Treasury and the union of hospital workers broke up last night after the Treasury offered only 400 of the 1,500 additional job slots the union demanded.

Barya Levy, head of the 10,000-member union, had demanded an immediate increase of 700 job slots, which the Treasury rejected outright.

Finance Ministry representatives said that this morning they would apply to the labor court for restraining orders for vital hospital employees which the Health Ministry would have to approve because of the dire straits in the hospitals, even though Matza said such orders were the wrong way to deal with the problem.

Earlier, Matza, informed that all state hospitals would have to be shut down soon if the sanitation, food, and laundry problem continues, called Prime Minister Binjamin Netanyahu, who told Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman

the matter must be settled immediately.

The union of state hospital administrative, maintenance, and technical staff has been striking for five days to protest the Treasury's refusal to increase job slots by 1,500 and relieve their overwork. Piles of garbage, stinking toilets, inadequate food and laundry supplies reduced the hospitals' functioning to a minimal and caused havoc.

Prof. Ya'acov Hart, head of the Hospital Directors' Association, said that the "Treasury has decided to torture hospitals and the whole health system. We won't allow two officials who decided to destroy our health system - which this year was ranked as second best in the world by *The Economist* - to succeed."

Matza has already won support in his struggle from Knesset Finance Committee chairman Abraham Ravitz and Education Minister Zevulun Hammer. The hospital directors warned that issuing back-to-work orders would not resolve the issue.

If the dispute is not settled, the strike by over 10,000 workers will continue in 31 state general, geriatric, and psychiatric institutions around the country.

Meanwhile, the Israel Medical Association is continuing its strike - now in its third week - due to the Treasury's failure to implement an agreement increasing doctors' job slots by 360 over the next four years it signed last March.

Striking hospitals in squalor

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

Stacks of dirty laundry, kitchens overflowing with trays filled with rotting food, and bathrooms that have not seen a scrub brush in days, decorated with drops of blood from intravenous drips that have been pulled out - these were the scenes that greeted those unfortunate enough to need the services of government hospitals yesterday, the fifth day of a strike by support staff.

At Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital, patients expressed disgust with the sanitary conditions around them, and exhausted-looking doctors and nurses complained that they and their patients were paying the price for the strike.

"The filth has reached the point where I feel there is a danger of infections and other health hazards," said a worried Lili Katz, chief nurse in Ichilov's Surgery A ward. "I returned from vacation today and I was shocked by the dirt and the garbage."

"The burden on the nurses is incredible. There are no secretaries to answer the phones - nurses have to do that - and they are making an effort to help with the cleaning, but there is no way they can keep it under control. They have to push the patients into surgery, because the orderlies are on strike - they are trying to do everyone's job at once."

Katz said that striking in this way is irresponsible and unnecessary. "Look, we know in the end that they will come to some kind of agreement. So why in the world can't they do it before all have to

suffer, instead of afterward?" Patients at Ichilov praised the medical workers for continuing to provide quality care under the difficult conditions, though it was worrisome that they have them concerned and angry. With no kitchen staff, they were eating ready-made meals with plastic utensils.

Those who were being cared for on an emergency basis said that they were pleased that the strike had not affected these medical services. Michal and Shuda Ben-Avram's newborn daughter is being cared for in the hospital's department for premature infants.

"Everything in her ward is fine," said Michal. "The place is being kept clean for the babies, and the team is taking good care of her." However, those who were waiting for scheduled operations were warned that if the strike continues tomorrow, the procedures may not take place.

"It's not a good feeling sitting around here and seeing how empty the place is," said Salma Haba from Tel Aviv. Haba, clad in hospital pajamas, was admitted yesterday for a heart bypass operation scheduled for today. "Today they prepared me for surgery, but they said that if there's a strike tomorrow it may not happen."

"Knowing I'm going to have an operation is hard enough, and the dirty condition of the hospital doesn't make it any easier - but this uncertainty is the worst. I wish I could be certain that I was going to have the operation any day in the next two days it will be behind me. But with this strike, nobody knows."

WEATHER

Tel Aviv	23-28
Tiberias	22-30
Afula	18-23
Samarra	18-23
Jerusalem	15-24
Beer Sheva	17-28
Dead Sea	23-34
Ellet	21-34

Forecast: Partly cloudy and chilly

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH				
Amsterdam	08	48	cloudy			
Berlin	08	46	clear			
Buenos Aires	11	35	17	88	clear	
Cairo	14	87	24	76	partly cloudy	
Copenhagen	07	39	16	61	clear	
Frankfurt	07	45	22	72	clear	
Geneva	09	48	18	64	cloudy	
Helsinki	01	32	22	72	cloudy	
Hong Kong	21	70	82	94	clear	
Jakarta	19	84	25	77	partly cloudy	
London	15	39	20	68	cloudy	
Los Angeles	15	73	31	88	clear	
Madrid	01	15	09	22	72	rain
Moscow	01	24	04	39	rain	
New York	15	59	19	77	partly cloudy	
Paris	10	49	25	77	clear	
Rome	13	55	18	77	clear	
Stockholm	13	55	18	77	clear	
Sydney	08	48	18	63	partly cloudy	
Vienna	08	48	18	63	partly cloudy	
Zurich	08	48	18	63	partly cloudy	

Winning cards

In yesterday's early Chance drawings, the winning cards were the jack of spades, king of hearts, 7 of diamonds, and 7 of clubs, and the 9 of spades, queen of hearts, 7 of diamonds, and 8 of clubs.

Olmert to announce future plans

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, who was acquitted of campaign funding violations on Sunday, said yesterday he will disclose his plans for his political future after the High Holy Days.

Olmert, touted as a future Likud candidate for prime minister, told Israel Television: "Everything I have to say on the subject I will say after the holidays in an orderly, open, and public fashion."

Olmert's wife Aliza asserted yesterday in response to her husband's acquittal that he was indicted as part of a "go get 'em" campaign waged against right-wingers by then attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

US Jews feel more threatened by antisemitism than intermarriage

By ARYEH DEAN CONEN

Antisemitism, not intermarriage, is still considered the primary threat to the American Jewish community by most US Jews, according to a recent poll conducted by the American Jewish Committee.

The poll also showed a significant increase in support for Binjamin Netanyahu since he became prime minister, although it did not transfer to either the Likud or settlers. However, the poll, taken in February, preceded the conversion bill issue and incidents at the Western Wall which may cut into that support.

The poll, by Market Facts Inc., included a sample of 1,160 Jews. Nine percent identified themselves as Orthodox, 31% Conservative, 32% Reform, 1% Reconstructionist, and 26% as "just Jewish."

It found that significantly more American Jews believe antisemitism will only worsen, and that Muslims and the "Religious Right" are the most antisemitic groups.

When asked: "Do you think that antisemitism in the US is currently a very serious problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem at all," 40% answered very serious, 53% somewhat of a problem, 5% not a problem, and 1% were not sure."

Asked if antisemitism would increase greatly, somewhat, remain the same, decrease somewhat, or decrease greatly over the next several years, 39% said it would increase, 10% decrease, 48% remain the same, and 2% were not sure.

After the Muslims and Religious Right, fundamentalist Protestants and blacks are viewed as most antisemitic. A total of 27% see Muslims (7%) or many (20%) blacks as antisemitic, while 16% believe very few or none hold such views, according to the poll.

However, belief that antisemitism is a very serious problem is stronger among older Jews, those with lower incomes and less education, those who feel being Jewish is "very important" in their lives, and those who feel close ties to Israel.

Similarly, the view that antisemitism poses a greater threat than intermarriage is also higher among older, less educated members of the population, and the who identified themselves as Reform or "just Jewish." Intermarriage is seen as more of a threat by the better educated, those whose Orthodox, and those married to Jews.

American Jewish Committee Israel/Middle East office director Yossi Alpher said the perceived threat of antisemitism is "quite striking, especially considering that our perception is that America has overcome antisemitism."

"Apparently, however, when you scratch the surface of American Jews, they are still afraid of antisemitism. This is still something that preoccupies people. It's a bull-in reaction passed on from earlier generations," he said.

Alpher said the rise in popularity of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and the stated goal of some American Baptist groups to try to convert Jews contributes to these fears.

Nevertheless, he was surprised to see antisemitism worried many American Jews more than intermarriage. "Everyone talks about intermarriage and [Jewish] continuity," he said. "Common wisdom said that the reason American Jews are intermarrying at such a high rate is that there is no longer any societal barrier to doing so, that there is no antisemitism anymore. But in the end, this turns out not to be the case."

Kenneth Jacobson, assistant national director of the Anti-Defamation League, warned against any sense of "competition" between the two problems. "There's no competition, these two should both be primary concerns of the Jewish people," he said.

"We have to do both - educate to promote Jewish continuity, and to be vigilant and mount campaigns against antisemitism."

Nonetheless, Jacobson said the poll "should be taken seriously," and noted that an ADL survey taken a few years ago showed that while it had declined somewhat

over the last 25 years, 20% of the American public had significant antisemitic attitudes.

The poll also looked at American Jews' views of Prime Minister Binjamin Netanyahu and his handling of the peace process.

Asked to rate a list of Israeli leaders and groups, 75% had a favorable view of Netanyahu, compared to only 37% in January 1996; 18% had an unfavorable view, down from 37%; while 6% were not sure, down from 26%.

Support for Netanyahu was particularly strong among Orthodox Jews (42% favorable), compared to 23% among Conservative, and 20% among Reform. When adding the "somewhat favorable" response, Netanyahu's positive rate jumped to 91% among the Orthodox, 79% among Conservative, and 71% among Reform.

Support for Shimon Peres dipped from an 85% favorable rating in January 1996, when he was still prime minister, to 67%.

"This poll reflects a general trend towards American Jewish support for whoever is the prime minister," Prof. Gabriel Sheffer of Hebrew University's Department of Political Science said. "However, I would expect a significant drop in popularity in the next poll in light of the conversion bill issue, which has elicited a storm of response among American Jews."

Alpher said Netanyahu's increased popularity is likely attributable to a "knee-jerk reaction" toward supporting any prime minister. "They want to support the democratically-elected leader of the State of Israel," he said.

US Jews do not believe it's wrong to openly criticize Israeli policy, by more than a 2-1 margin, the poll found, but 55% agreed that "regardless of their individual views on the peace negotiations with the Arabs, American Jews should support the policies of the duly elected government of Israel."

An overwhelming majority characterized relations between Israel and the US as "positive."



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